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STRANGE TALES

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NICK FURY,
AGENT OF
SHIELD



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NICK FURY, AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.!
SUPREME HEADQUARTERS INTERNATIONAL ESPIONAGE LAW-ENFORCEMENT DIVISION!

"DEATH BEFORE DISHONOR!"

DEEP IN THE GIANT UNDERGROUND COMPLEX CREATED TO GUARD ALL FREE MEN, A FIERCE EXPLOSION RIPS THROUGH SHIELD'S DETENTION SECTION... WHERE THE CAPTURED RAIDERS FROM 'A.I.M.'* ARE KEPT FOR INTERROGATION!

*DON'T TELL US...
WE'LL TELL YOU...
A.I.M. STANDS FOR
ADVANCED IDEA
MECHANICS...
A BAND OF EVIL
GENIUSES IN LEAGUE
WITH THEM...

(AND WE'LL TELL YOU
WHO **THEM** ARE SOME
OTHER TIME.)

ALL FIRE-
FIGHTING UNITS!
THAT WAS A
**THERMAL
BLAST**...
BREAK OUT
EVERYTHING
WE'VE GOT!

COLONEL FURY...
HE WAS QUESTIONING
THE PRISONERS WHEN
IT HAPPENED... BUT--
HE'S STILL ALIVE!

TURN THOSE
ANTI-THERMAL CHEMICALS
ON NICK! KEEP **POURING**
IT! HE'S ONLY GOT
SECONDS LEFT!

ANOTHER
MIGHTY
MARVEL
SURPRISE!

WHILE SMILIN' STAN WAS ON VACATION, OL' JACK HIMSELF PITCHED IN AND SCRIPTED THIS GREAT YARN! WHO SAYS THIS ISN'T THE MARVEL AGE OF VERSATILE VIRTUOSOS?!!

EDITED (IN ABSENTIA) BY... STAN LEE
LAYOUTS AND SCRIPT BY... JACK KIRBY
PENCILLING AND INKING BY... DON HECK
LETTERING BY... SAM ROSEN

ALMOST HADDEN BY NICK FURY'S FLIGHT, DUM-DUM, THE ETERNAL FRIEND, PLUNGES INTO THE WHITE HOT BLAZE!

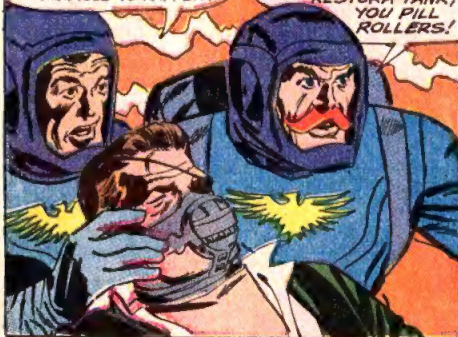
HANG ON, NICK! I'M COMING FOR YA! I WON'T LET YA DIE, NICK!

STOP! HE'S BEYOND HELP! NOTHING CAN STAY ALIVE IN THAT HEAT!



HE'S NOT RESPONDING, DUM-DUM... BUT WE'LL TRY EVERY TRICK IN THE MEDICS BAG... AND HOPE FOR A MIRACLE TO HAPPEN!

MIRACLE, MY FOOT! NICK'S GON' TO LIVE! HE'S GOT TO LIVE! LET'S GO WITH THAT RESTORA-TANK, YOU PILL ROLLERS!



EASY, DUM-DUM! THE MED BOYS HAVE GOT HIM! THEY'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE!

YA FUMBLIN' GOOF-OFFS! WATCH IT!... THAT'S NOT A BALE OF 'C' RATIONS! THAT'S NICK FURY YOU'RE CARRYING, I HEAR... NICK FURY!!

WE KNOW OUR JOB, FELLA! NOW CALM DOWN! THIS LOOKS LIKE A TIME FOR LESS HOLLERING AND MORE PRAYING!

STRENGTHEN THE VITA-FLUID TO MAXIMUM, NOGAN! IF THERE'S STILL A SPARK OF LIFE IN FURY, THE FLUID WILL NURSE IT!

NOT A CHANCE! HE'LL NEVER MAKE IT TO SURGERY! ALL THIS FLUID CAN DO NOW IS GET HIM WET!



BUT DUM-DUM IS BEYOND ALL REASONING... HE IS SWIFT AND DESPERATE IN THE INFERNO... AND PLUCKS FROM IT THE ONE MAN HE PRIZES ABOVE ALL OTHERS!

MOVE, YOU LUNKS! DON'T PLAY STATUES! NICK NEEDS OXYGEN!

POOR DUM-DUM IS OUT OF HIS HEAD... OR HE'D SEE THAT THE CHIEF DOESN'T NEED ANYTHING ANYMORE!

THE RESTORA-TANK... A MAN-SIZED GLASS TUBE, FILLED WITH A CELL-REPAIRING SUBSTANCE CALLED VITA-FLUID, IS RUSHED TO THE SCENE...

THE CHIEF HIMSELF! GOSH, SOMEHOW I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT NICK FURY'S USED UP ALL OF HIS NINE LIVES!

THIS IS ONE BLOW WHICH SHIELD CAN'T AFFORD!





DUM-DUM'LL FINISH THE JOB, NICK! I'LL FLUSH THE REST OF THOSE "A.I.M." NYENAS OUTTA THEIR COVER AND MAKE 'EM YELP UNTIL THEY TURN BLUE!

YOU'VE GOT TO BACK OFF, PAL! THIS TANK MUST BE MOVED TO SURGERY AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE!



YES, WE MAY BE ABLE TO REACTIVATE THAT "LIFE MODEL DECOY" FOR ADDITIONAL DUTIES!

DROP THE CRYING TOWEL AND PICK UP A HOSE, YOU MUSH-HEARTED APE! NOBODY BAWLS WHILE "SHIELD" BURNS!

THE CHIEF N-HE'S ALIVE!

WE'VE BEEN TRYIN' TO REVIVE A LIFE MODEL DECOY!



NICK... IT'S YOU...

YEAH... ME!

NOT AN ANIMATED DUMMY!

THEY DON'T SMOKE MY BRAND OF CIGAR...

IT WAS MY SUGGESTION THAT THE CHIEF QUESTION THE PRISONERS BY REMOTE CONTROL... THROUGH A LIFE MODEL DECOY...

OF COURSE YOU BIG DOPPE!

YOU'RE REALLY ALIVE!



I GET IT! THE "L.M.D." HAD A MICRO-TV CAMERA AND SPEAKER SYSTEM PLANTED ON IT... YOU PLAYED IT SAFE!

YEAH... THE A.I.M. GANG BLEW UP OUR PRISONERS BY "REMOTE" TOO... WHICH MEANS THAT A.I.M. HAS A TV FIX ON SHIELD!

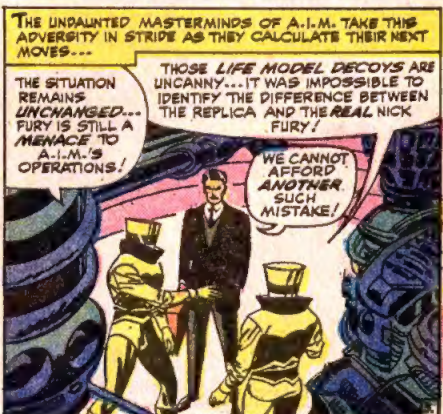
AND THAT'S DIRTY POOL!



IN THE SECRET LABORATORIES OF THE ORGANIZATION CALLED "A.I.M." THE EVENTS AT SHIELD ARE BEING MONITORED VISUALLY BY SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT DEVELOPED BY INCREDIBLE MINDS...

YEAH... TOO BAD! THOSE PRISONERS WERE IMPORTANT EVIDENCE THAT A.I.M. IS THE HOSTILE FORCE WE CLAIM IT IS!

ADVANCED
IDEA
MECHANICS

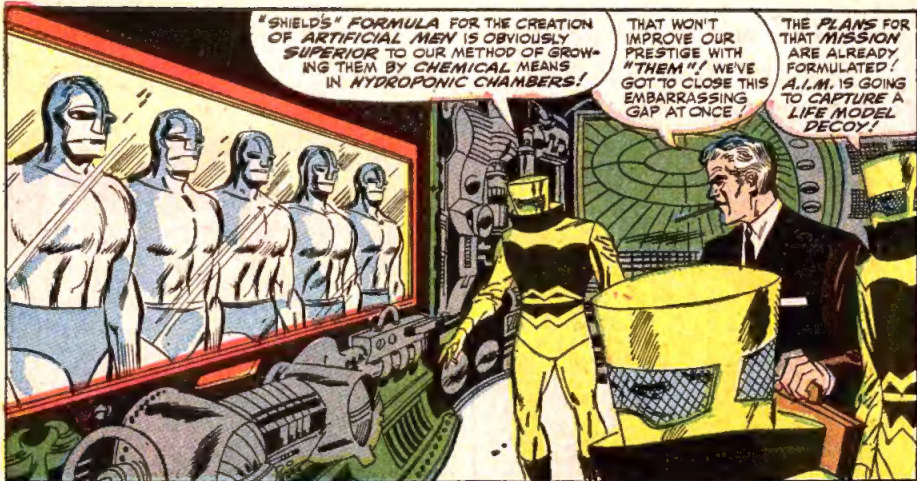


THE UNDAUNTED MASTERMINDS OF A.I.M. TAKE THIS ADVERSITY IN STRIDE AS THEY CALCULATE THEIR NEXT MOVES...

THE SITUATION REMAINS UNCHANGED... FURY IS STILL A MENACE TO A.I.M.'S OPERATIONS!

THOSE LIFE MODEL DECOYS ARE UNCANNY... IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO IDENTIFY THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE REPLICA AND THE REAL NICK FURY!

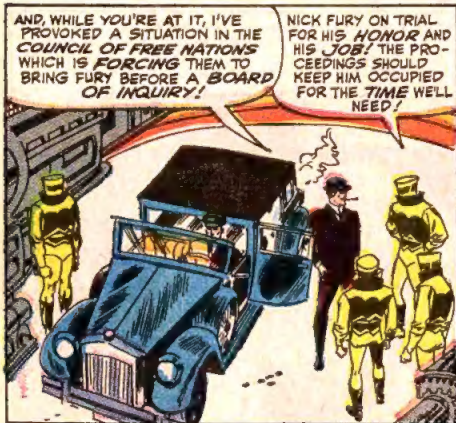
WE CANNOT AFFORD ANOTHER SUCH MISTAKE!



"SHIELDS' FORMULA FOR THE CREATION OF ARTIFICIAL MEN IS OBVIOUSLY SUPERIOR TO OUR METHOD OF GROWING THEM BY CHEMICAL MEANS IN HYDROPONIC CHAMBERS!"

THAT WON'T IMPROVE OUR PRESTIGE WITH "THEM"! WE'VE GOT TO CLOSE THIS EMBARRASSING GAP AT ONCE!

THE PLANS FOR THAT MISSION ARE ALREADY FORMULATED! A.I.M. IS GOING TO CAPTURE A LIFE MODEL DECOY!



AND, WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, I'VE PROVOKED A SITUATION IN THE COUNCIL OF FREE NATIONS WHICH IS FORCING THEM TO BRING FURY BEFORE A BOARD OF INQUIRY!

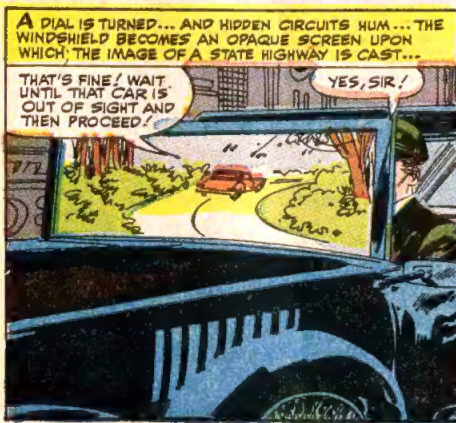
NICK FURY ON TRIAL FOR HIS HONOR AND HIS JOB! THE PROCEEDINGS SHOULD KEEP HIM OCCUPIED FOR THE TIME WE'LL NEED!



YOU SHALL HAVE THE TIME! I'M LEAVING NOW TO MAKE SURE THAT PREPARATIONS FOR THE TRIAL ARE UNDER WAY!

CHAUFFEUR... SEE IF THE HIGHWAY OUTSIDE IS CLEAR OF TRAFFIC!

I'LL CHECK THE WIND-SHIELD TV SCREEN, SIR!



A DIAL IS TURNED... AND HIDDEN CIRCUITS HUM... THE WINDSHIELD BECOMES AN OPAQUE SCREEN UPON WHICH THE IMAGE OF A STATE HIGHWAY IS CAST...

THAT'S FINE! WAIT UNTIL THAT CAR IS OUT OF SIGHT AND THEN PROCEED!

YES, SIR!



THE CLEVER CAMOUFLAGE OF "A.I.M." PARTS FOR A FLEETING INSTANT... AS COUNT RONALD DEPARTS TO ACCOMPLISH HIS STARTLING TASK...

DRIVE ME TO THE FREE NATIONS' JUSTICE DEPARTMENT... I'M SURE THEY'LL WELCOME MY TESTIMONY IN THEIR CASE AGAINST FURY...

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

CAPRICIOUS COMMENTARIES, CAREFULLY COOKED-UP TO CONFUSE AND CONFOUND YOU!

ITEM: It finally happened! For years, ol' Stan has been threatening to take a vacation. But, just like the boy who cried wolf, nobody paid any attention to him after a while. Until, a few days ago, Jolly Solly Brodsky broke the news to the bullpen that Smiley had finally packed his toothbrush and typewriter and headed south! Although Stan managed to write most of this month's yarns before leaving, there are a few he just couldn't get to, and so, some of our other beautiful bullpeners took over in his stead! We know you'll get a real charge out of seeing the way Rascally Roy Thomas finished up the Sub-Mariner/Iron Man battle in **ASTONISH #82**, as well as comparing the deliciously different style of Dandy Denny O'Neil, who completed the final 13 pages of **DAREDEVIL #181**. And, for the most unexpected surprise of all, Jumpy Jack Kirby himself wrote the script—in addition to doing the layouts—for Nick Fury's **S.H.I.E.L.D.** thriller in **STRANGE TALES #148!** (You'll be amazed at learning that the King's writing style has the same power and punch as his spellbinding artwork!) Thus, with Jolly Solly heroically riding herd over all the bedlam, aided by Fabulous Flo, Mirthful Marie, and Laughin' Larry, we wish Stan the Man a swingin' vacation and hope he comes back soon—those long distance phone calls we've been receiving from him each day are driving us batty!

ITEM: Many of our hipper readers have been swamping us with mail praising the new, more authentic Greenwich Village locale in our Dr. Strange yarns. The reason for such instant realism is that Wild Bill Everett felt that no sacrifice was too great to make for mighty Marvel—thus, when he took over the strip, he shared Rascally Roy's Bleeker Street pad for a while, right in the heart of the Village! It's worked out fine, so far, except for one offbeat problem—Roy and the wild one are convinced that their next-door neighbor is a dead ringer for the dread Dormammu!

ITEM: Sweat shirt fans of the world—until this is just for YOU! Now, you no longer have to wear your heavenly Hulk shirt 24 hours a day! Our Department of Public Welfare, taking pity on your sartorial plight—heeding your pleas and entreaties—has created a nutty new Thing sweat shirt, to enable you to diversify your formal attire! It's the most exciting new innovation in wearing apparel since the banian cap, and it's no mere coincidence that you'll see it advertised elsewhere in this ish! There's a coupon on the ad—do yourself a favor and use it! (Caution: Although perfect for every occasion, we recommend that your ever-lovin' Thing sweat shirt not be worn during a cosmic ray bombardment.)

ITEM: More incomparable info about our once-a-year king-size special ish! Those of you whose tastes run in that direction will be pleased as punch to learn that our 25¢ **MILLIE THE MODEL SPECIAL** is now on sale! And, as for the rest of you, you can seek solace in the fact that Marvel's 25¢ **SGT. FURY AND HIS HOWLING COMMANDOS SPECIAL** is also lending a note of excitement to your favorite mag rack right

now! It features a block-busting never-before-printed epic which you've all been clamoring for—the Howlers in action on D-Day! Take our word for it—it's a comic book bombshell! Then, the next two once-a-year Marvel Masterworks to watch for will be the 25¢ **THOR SPECIAL**, as well as our sensational **MARVEL SUPER-HEROES SPECIAL!** We'll give you the complete scoop on them next ish in this space. (And, be sure to save another four bits for our final two Specials which go on sale in July—the long-awaited **FANTASTIC FOUR** and **SPIDER-MAN** super-spectaculars!) Yep, it's gonna be a great summer in Marveldom, and we're planning to spend it with you—no matter where you may be! (We just hope you don't snore!)

ITEM: Now it can be told! Wondrous Werner Roth—whom you've known as Jay Gavin—has elected to join the growing list of Marvel madmen who are so proud of the work they've been doing that they no longer want to use an artistic alias! So now we know Jay's real moniker, as well as the fact that Adam Austin is actually Gene Colan, and Frankie Ray was merely a nom de plume for Frank Giacomini! (It's like following a detective story!) Anyway, if you think all of this is confusing, wait'll we finally turn the spotlight on Honest Irving Forbush! Hoo boy!

ITEM: Let's add two more groovy deejays to our luminous list of Merry Marchers! Dazzlin' Dick Robinson has been spreading the word about mighty Marvel throughout New England from station WDRC at Hartford, Connecticut! Great to have you aboard, Dick! And how about Sparklin' Spence Allen! Or Spenceroor, whose home base is WKSX (they call it "Kissin' radio"—pretty cute, huh?) at Laramstown, N.Y., has been doing some of the funniest take-offs you've ever heard by combining pop records with mirthful Marvel interviews! Grab a listen if you're in the area—they're a blast!

ITEM: Have you heard about our cavortin' characters entering politics? Well, maybe we're exaggerating a bit, but we thought you'd get a kick out of hearing that SLATE, one of the political student parties at the University of California (the one at Berkeley, Stan!) ("In" joke! Forgive us.)—SLATE has been using our heart-warmin' heroes on its campaign posters during the recent college elections! Obviously, they're one bunch of campus cut-ups that are really facin' front!

ITEM: We just had to tell you this! It broke us up the other day! We were sitting around the bullpen, engaged in our usual activity of taking a coffee break and watching the clock, when King Kirby walked in, after having finished an hour-long story conference with Stan. By way of an exit line, Jack was heard to mutter: "Well, we just polished off a few holocausts, and a cataclysm or two! Now, I'll go out and relax by dreaming up a few simple disasters!" Somehow, there's more truth than poetry to that sentiment. Ever wonder what it's like to illustrate galactic wars, battles between gods, and cosmic adventures day after day? If a

simple thing like an earthquake took place across the street, Jack probably wouldn't even hear it!

THE WRAP-UP: Next ish, on this page, we'll announce the result of our poll in which we asked you whether we should continue to rib Brand Echh or ignore them completely from now on! Also, we'll have additional nutty news and notes from the far corners of Marveldom! So, even if you don't like our stories—even if you shudder at our artwork—we expect you to tune in again next month anyway—after all, SOMEONE's gotta read these bulletins! 'Nuff said!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

A Line-Up Of Some Of The Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

FANTASTIC FOUR #54: A knockout! Featuring the fighting, flaming Iron Man Torch as he heads back for the Inhumans!

SPIDER-MAN #40: The one you've been waiting for! The wrap-up of the amazing saga of the Green Goblin!

AVENGERS #31: Goliath fights as never before, in the block-busting display of sheer power which you've clamored for!

X-MEN #23: With the fate of the nation's capital hanging in the balance, the X-Men must defeat Count Nefaria's super-team, or die!

DAREDEVIL #19: Don't miss the hair-raising return of the Masked Mauler—as we learn the fate of Foggy Nelson!

THOR #131: Goldilocks has battled all sorts of foes before—but never one as shocking as the dreaded Space Colonizer!

SUSPENSE #91: Talk about surprises! Titanium Man is back! Plus the saga of Cap desperately battling the power of Red Skull's cosmic cubel!

ASTONISH #83: Follow the Sub-Mariner on the trail of Krang once more! Also, don't miss the meeting of General Ross and—the Hulk!

SGT. FURY #33: Guns roar in Greece—as Fury and his fightin' fanatics are captured by the enemy! Guest-starring: The Two-fisted Skipper!

FANTASY MASTERPIECES #4: More Golden Age thrills with Captain America, plus the greatest fantasy epics of all!

MARVEL TALES #4: The most marvelous line-up yet—Spider-Man! Thor! Ant-Man! And the Human Torch!

MARVEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #4: The fabulous F.F.I. The Incredible Hulk! Iron Man! Doc Strange! How do we do it for only two bits?

SGT. FURY 25¢ SPECIAL #2: This is the big one! The actual story of D-Day, as seen thru the eyes of the Howlers themselves!

MILLIE THE MODEL 25¢ SPECIAL #5: Somebody must like this mag! It sells like hotcakes, year after year! A great gift for the gals!



Let's meet 26 more M.M.M.S. members!

John Houston
Stockton, Cal.
Steve Holt
Brookfield, Wis.

David Heinze
Rock Island, Ill.
Jerry Kowicz
Fort City, Pa.
Peter Brown
Hansfield, Mass.
Mike Hickey
Nashville, Tenn.

Randy Jenkins
Sandy, Utah
Mike Jones
San Bruno, Cal.
Sidney Andrews
Gary, Ind.
Robert Furusho
Mount. View, Cal.

Allen Friedman
Prairie Village, Kans.
Marc Isaacs
San Rafael, Cal.
John Breidewe
Concord, Cal.
Mark Grant
St. Collins, Colo.

Sal Caputo
Plainfield, N. J.
Gary Covey
Columbus, Ohio
Robert Hunter
Akron, Ohio
John Cousin
Wethersfield, Conn.

Bill Boyenze
Canandaigua, N. Y.
Bill Baker
Englewood, Ohio
Doyle Abernathy
Granite City, Ill.
Barry Barrman
Oakland, Cal.

Ted Johnston
Los Angeles, Cal.
Tom Gilbert
Pasadena, Cal.
Edwin Baker
Los Angeles, Cal.
Phil Castora
Burbank, Cal.

THROW YOUR VOICE



Throw your voice into trunks, behind doors, everywhere. Instrument fits in your mouth and out of sight. Fool teacher, friends and family. Free book on "How to Become a Ventriquist." No. 137 \$25c



MAGIC CARDS

Deck is marked and stripped. Can be read from the back but looks like ordinary deck. With instructions for 10 terrific tricks. No. 183 \$1.98

SURPRISE PACKAGE



Are you willing to take a chance? We won't tell you what you get, but because you're willing to gamble, we'll give you more than your money's worth. No. 678 Only 50c

JACK POT BANK

A Dime-operating Jack Pot Bank that works just like the one armed bandit in Las Vegas. Just deposit the dime and spin the handle. Reels spin and look like the real stuff. Dimes are removable. This game should not be used for gambling purposes, only for fun. No. 2060 \$1.98



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AMAZING MINIATURE RADIO

This tiny, feather weight radio operates without batteries, without tubes, but brings you years of listening pleasure. There's nothing to wear out, nothing to replace. No. 644 \$2.98

SILENT DOG WHISTLE



This whistle can't be heard by human ears, but Rover can hear it half a mile away. Your dog will understand that this whistle is for him alone. Be amazed how quickly he responds. No. 701 \$1.00

SEE BEHIND GLASSES

A specially treated pair of sunglasses with secret mirrors that enable you to see behind you without anyone knowing you're watching. Really comes in handy at times. No. 30 \$75c

TREASURE CHEST OF FUN

MONSTER SIZE MONSTERS



A full 6 feet tall in authentic full color and so very life-like you'll probably find yourself talking to them. We have these two all-time favorites — spine-chilling Frankenstein, and the mad vampire Dracula. No. F17 \$1.00

WORMS

Drop these seemingly innocent pellets into a glass of water and magically a worm will appear. Can you imagine the look of horror on your victims face? It's harmless. No. 612 \$15c



ONION GUM

Yes—Looks like real chewing gum but tastes like... like... ONIONS! It's too funny! 12 slices to a pack. No. 281 20c

MINIATURE SECRET CAMERA

Precision camera so small, it fits in cigarette pack. Weighs 2 1/2 ounces and takes 10 pictures per roll. Precision ground lens and time expose shutter. Can be hidden anywhere. Complete with free roll of film. No. 788 \$1.00 & Rolle Film 79c

WHOOPEE CUSHION



Place it on a chair under a cushion, then watch the fun when someone sits down! It gives forth embarrassing noises. Made of rubber, and inflatable. A scream at parties and gatherings. No. 247 50c



The most popular joke novelty in years! Wind up and wait... make a ring. When you shake hands, it almost raises the victim off his feet with a "shocking sensation." Absolutely harmless. No. 239 Only 50c

X-RAY SPECS

An Hilarious Optical Illusion \$1.00



Scientific optical principle... really works. Imagine—you put on the "X-Ray" Specs and hold your hand in front of you. You seem to be able to look right through the flesh and see the bones underneath. Look at your friend. Is that really his body you "see" under his clothes? Loads of laughs and fun at parties. No. F17 \$1.00

TRICK BASEBALL

It bounces cockeyed, it curves, it dips, it's impossible to catch. It's sure to set all the kids on the block spinning after it. There's a barrel of fun in every bounce. No. 158 50c



TRICK BLACK SOAP

Ordinary looking piece of soap. Victim washes face and gets blacker and blacker. When he gets a look in the mirror, he'll be shocked. Harmless. No. 575 Only 25c

Pen Size—Clips On Your Pocket—6-Power Magnifier

This exciting new 6-power wide field magnifier is cleverly concealed in a pen-sized pocket scope that lets you "peek" to your hearts content. So handy for Sporting Events, Counter-spying and Girl Watching. Also contains a 30-power full microscope to thrill any naturalist. Not a toy, but a real instrument. Full money back guarantee if not delighted. Only \$2.98. Item No. F59 \$2.98

Secret Spy Scope



Honor House Prod. Corp. Dept. 77GK 20 Lynbrook, N.Y.

Rush me the items listed below. If I am not 100% satisfied, I may return any part of my purchase after 10 days. Free Trial for full refund of purchase price.

Item	Name of Item	How Many	Total Price

☐ I enclose _____ in full payment. Same guarantee.

☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postman on delivery plus postage.

Name _____

Address _____

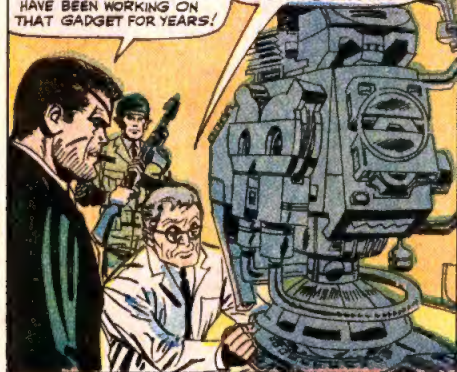
N.Y. State residents please add 2% sales tax.

Sorry, we cannot ship orders for less than \$1.00. Kindly add 15c for postage and handling to all orders.

MEANWHILE, IN A HEAVILY-GUARDED LABORATORY IN SHIELD'S ORDNANCE DIVISION...

WHAT'S SO IMPORTANT ABOUT MY BEIN' HERE? I FIGGER YOU JOKERS HAVE BEEN WORKING ON THAT GADGET FOR YEARS!

YES SIR! AND NOW, AFTER MANY EFFORTS, WE HAVE PRODUCED THE FIRST CRUDE MODEL!

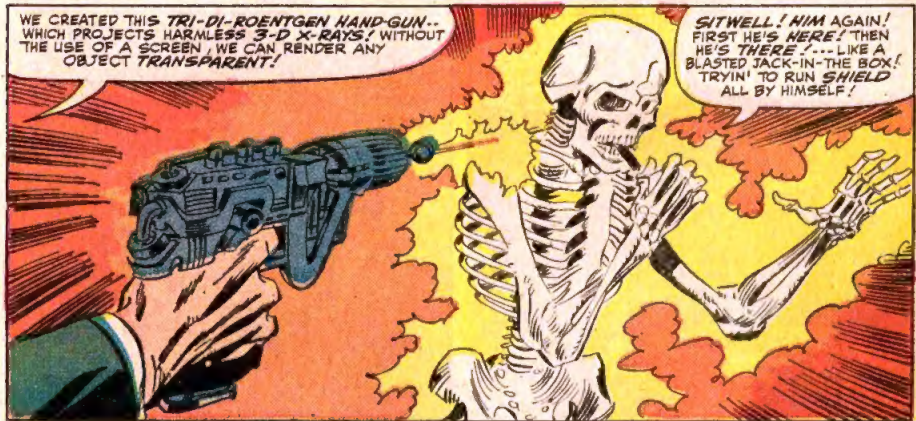


CRUDE AINT THE WORD FOR IT! THE THING LOOKS LIKE A PIE-BAKIN' MACHINE FOR SOUPY SALES! NOW TELL ME WHAT IT CAN DO FOR SHIELD!

NOT MUCH, IN ITS OLD FORM, SIR! BUT ACTING ON A SUGGESTION FROM AGENT SITWELL, WE USED THE MOST ADVANCED TECHNIQUES TO COLLAPSE IT INTO A SMALLER PACKAGE!



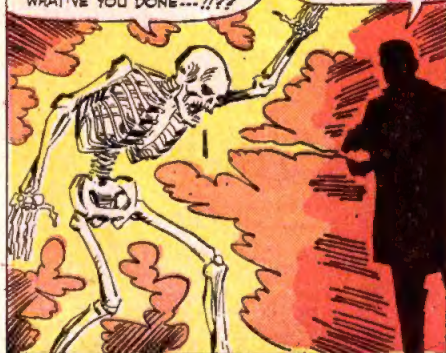
WE CREATED THIS TRI-DI-ROENTGEN HAND-GUN.. WHICH PROJECTS HARMLESS 3-D X-RAYS! WITHOUT THE USE OF A SCREEN, WE CAN RENDER ANY OBJECT TRANSPARENT!



SITWELL! HIM AGAIN! FIRST HE'S HERE! THEN HE'S THERE!... LIKE A BLASTED JACK-IN-THE BOX! TRYIN' TO RUN SHIELD ALL BY HIMSELF!

HE'S SO BUSY WAITIN IN THE BULL PEN... FOR MY JOB... WHAT IN BLAZES! WHATEVE YOU DONE...!!??

NO CAUSE FOR ALARM, SIR. I'LL TURN IT OFF...



A CLOWN, EH? ONE OF SITWELL'S FUNNY FRIENDS, EH? WELL, HERE'S WHAT I THINK... KEEP MINIATURIZING THAT THING... AND WHEN IT'S THE SIZE OF A PILL... SWALLOW IT AND FORGET IT!

I'M SURE YOU'RE OVERLOOKING ITS MANY POTENTIALS, SIR...



FURY SEETHES WITH AGITATION AS HE LEAVES THE LABORATORY...

LAY DOWN LEATHER, YOU GUYS! IF YOU CAN'T KEEP UP WITH ME... GO PLAY SOMEWHERE ELSE!

BOY! THE CHIEF IS CHEWING EVERYONE OUT! I WONDER IF THOSE RUMORS ABOUT HIS BEING IN TROUBLE WITH THE V.I.P.'S ARE TRUE?



TEARING PAST THE SECURITY GUARD IN FRONT OF HIS OFFICE, FURY BURSTS INTO HIS ROOM WITHOUT NOTICING THE PRESENCE OF AN INTRUDER!

TROUBLE IN WASHINGTON... TROUBLE WITH 'A.I.M.'... EVERYONE'S BUGGIN' ME BUT MY SAWBONES... AND I'LL BET HIS BILL'S ON MY DESK!



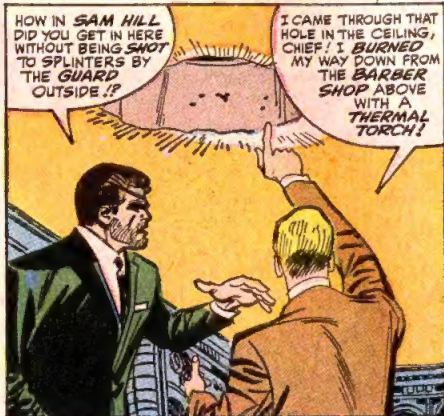
BANG!--YOU'RE DEAD, CHIEF! IT SEEMS YOU'VE OVERLOOKED A WEAK SPOT IN THE ARMOR OF YOUR SECURITY!

NO! NO! TELL ME IT ISN'T YOU, SITWELL! TELL ME THAT I'M CRACKIN' UP... AND I KEEP SEEING PEOPLE POINTIN' WEAPONS AT ME!



HOW IN SAM HILL DID YOU GET IN HERE WITHOUT BEING SHOT TO SPLINTERS BY THE GUARD OUTSIDE!?

I CAME THROUGH THAT HOLE IN THE CEILING, CHIEF! I BURNED MY WAY DOWN FROM THE BARBER SHOP ABOVE WITH A THERMAL TORCH!



NOW LOOK, SITWELL!-- WHEN I WAS YOUNG I READ ABOUT A KID LIKE YOU... HIS NAME WAS TOM SWIFT... A GO-GETTING GENIUS. HE WAS! NOW THAT I SEE HIM IN THE FLESH... I WANNA KILL 'IM!

BUT CHIEF... "A.I.M." KNOWS ABOUT THE BARBER SHOP... IF THEY ATTACKED IT AGAIN... THEY MIGHT...



LET ME WORRY ABOUT "A.I.M." SITWELL! THAT'S MY JOB! YOU HAVEN'T GOT IT YET! NOW RETURN TO YOUR ASSIGNMENT... OR I'LL BREAK YOU TO WATER BOY... THIRD CLASS!

IT SEEMS TO ME THAT YOU'RE BEARING DOWN RATHER HARD, CHIEF! IT WAS YOUR WELFARE I WAS CONCERNED ABOUT!



DESPITE OUR DIFFERENCES IN BACKGROUND AND ACHIEVEMENT, SIR, I--I RESPECT YOU AS I DO NO OTHER MAN! UNTIL THIS MOMENT, I'VE TRIED TO LOOK UP TO YOU... LIVE UP TO YOU...



BUT IF THIS IS THE WAY YOU WANT THINGS...IT'S FINE WITH ME/I'LL JUST DO MY JOB...AND THAT'S ALL!



GREAT! NOW, SCRAM, KID! YOU'RE BREAKIN' MY HEART ON SHIELD'S TIME!

DON'T JUST STAND THERE AND GAPE, SITWELL! I'VE GOT TO GO THROUGH THIS MAIL!--UNLESS YA THINK YOU CAN DO IT BETTER?



I--I'M GOING, SIR! YOU NEEDN'T WORRY ABOUT MY BOTHERING YOU HERE ANYMORE!

WHEN SITWELL LEAVES, GLOOMY SILENCE CLOSSES OVER FURY...LIKE THE STIFLING WINGS OF A GREAT PREDATORY BIRD! THEN...

YEP...THERE IT IS...THE COUP-DE-GRACE OF THE DAY!...OFFICIAL NOTICE TO APPEAR BEFORE A BOARD OF INQUIRY...



IT HAD TO COME, I GUESS! I'VE STEPPED ON ENOUGH K.I.D. TOES TO FILL A CHIROPODIST'S CALENDAR FOR A FULL YEAR!

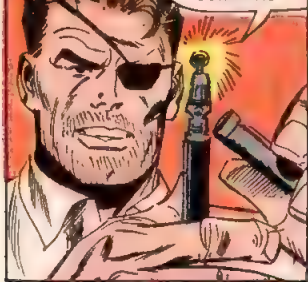


...AND THE NAME OF THE GAME, OF COURSE, IS...A.I.M.! THEIR REPRESENTATIVE HAS ENGINEERED THIS BEAUTIFULLY! WELL, HANG ON, COUNT ROYALE! I'M COVERIN' YER CHIPS!

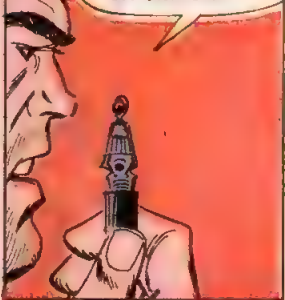


BUT NICK FURY...PLAYS EVERY GAME...HIS WAY!

HELLO, WASHINGTON! THIS IS NICK FURY ON SHIELD WAVE-LENGTH!



THIS IS TO ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR SUMMONS FOR TRIAL! I WILL REPORT ON THE REQUIRED DATE...IF THERE ARE NO FURTHER REQUESTS.. I'LL SIGN OFF!



THE FOLLOWING DAY, THE PUBLIC IS STUNNED BY THE NEWS!



I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! FURY'S DONE A GREAT JOB!

YEAH...AND MADE GREATER ENEMIES WHILE DOING IT!

BUT THE DETAILS OF THE SECRET TRIAL ARE KNOWN TO A.I.M.! THEY STRIKE AT SHIELD'S HIDDEN AIR-PORT, THE DAY THE INQUIRY BEGINS...

WE'VE COME IN TOO LOW FOR THEIR RADAR TO DETECT US!

...AND TOO FAST TO DRAW IMMEDIATE FIRE! RELEASE THE GAS!

IT'S SOME KINDA U.F.O.!

U.F.O. OR NOT...IT CAN'T LAND HERE! OPEN FIRE!

A STRANGE, WHIRRING SOUND ECHOES IN THE CRAFT'S INTERIOR... AND WITH FRIGHTENING SUDDENNESS, A FIERCE BLAST OF AIR HURLS DOWN A COLUMN OF SLEEP GAS UPON THE SURPRISED TROOPS...

... CAN'T KEEP MY EYES OPEN... MY LEGS FEEL LIKE RUBBER...

THE GAS...IT'S SWEEPING OVER THE ENTIRE AIRFIELD...

WHEN THE LAST TROOPER SLEEPS...THE CRAFT FROM A.I.M. SILENTLY LANDS...

ON THE DOUBLE! THIS RAID MUST BE TIMED TO THE SECOND!

DON'T LEAVE BEHIND ANY PIECE OF EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR THIS JOB!

HOW DO WE GET TO THE AREA WHERE SHIELD CREATES ITS LIFE MODEL DECOYS?

FOLLOW YOUR GROUP LEADER TO SHIELD'S PRIVATE SUBWAY SYSTEM! HE'LL GET YOU THERE!

IN THIS GRAVE MOMENT, WHEN SHIELD'S SECRETS ARE IN JEOPARDY, NICK FURY LISTENS TO HIS ACCUSERS ASSAIL HIS REPUTATION ABOARD THE HELI-CARRIER KNOWN AS THE FLYING PENTAGON!

WILL THE PROSECUTION CALL THE NEXT WITNESS...?

YES, SIR! I CALL COUNT BORNAG ROYALE...A REPRESENTATIVE OF A.I.M.... AN ORGANIZATION WELL-KNOWN FOR ITS TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN FREEDOM'S CAUSE!

YEAH...THEY LOVE FREEDOM SO MUCH...THEY WANTA BURY IT WITH THEIR TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENTS!

GO AHEAD, COUNT! MAKE YOUR PLAY!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

IS YOUR HAIR GROWING OR GOING?

Stand in front of a mirror. Take a long, hard look at the top of your head. Do you have as much hair as one year ago? Do you see any new hair growth?

If your answer is no, it is important that you take steps today to save the hair you now have. If you act now, you may be able to reverse the trend on your head. You may be able to grow new hair faster than it is falling out. Doesn't that make sense to you? Wouldn't you like to look in the mirror a year from now and see more hair on your head than you see now? Why lose your hair if you don't have to?

CAN YOU SAVE YOUR HAIR?

Every year thousands of men and women go bald — needlessly — because of a scalp infection. This scalp infection is called seborrhea. Doctors say that three germ organisms cause seborrhea: *staphylococcus albus*, *pitryosporum ovale*, and *microbacillus*. These germs attack the sebaceous glands and the hair follicles themselves. If not checked, permanent damage is done. The hair follicles atrophy, lose their ability to produce new hairs. The result: premature baldness.

You can easily tell if you are a victim of seborrhea. If you have itchy scalp, dandruff, hair loss, very dry or oily scalp, the chances are that you have seborrhea. Neglect these symptoms and you invite baldness.

Treat your scalp to Ward's Formula. This amazing scalp medicine quickly controls seborrhea and stops the hair loss it causes.

Here's the Proof!

I must admit I didn't have much faith in it but I hadn't been using Ward's one week before I could see it was helping me. I could feel my hair getting thicker.
E. K., Cleveland, Ohio

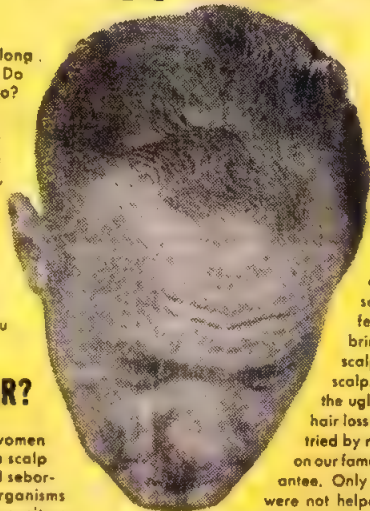
Out of all the Hair Experts I went to, I've gotten the most help from one bottle of Ward's Formula.
C. La M., Philadelphia, Pa.

After using Ward's for only 12 days, my hair has stopped falling out.
R. W. C., Cicero, Ill.

I am tickled to death with the results. In just two weeks' time no dandruff!
W. T. W., Portola, Cal.

I feel encouraged to say that the infuriating scalp itch which has bothered me for 5 years is now gone.
J. M. K., Columbus, Ohio

Male pattern baldness is the cause of the great majority of cases of baldness and excessive hair loss, for which neither the Ward treatment nor any other treatment is effective.



DOUBLE MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

In seconds, Ward's Formula kills the three parasitic germ organisms retarding normal hair growth. This swift germicidal action has been proven in scientific tests by a world-famous testing laboratory (copy of laboratory report sent on request). Ward's removes infectious dandruff, stops scalp itch, brings hair-nourishing blood to the scalp, tends to normalize very dry or oily scalp. In brief Ward's Formula corrects the ugly symptoms of seborrhea, stops the hair loss it causes. Ward's Formula has been tried by more than 550,000 men and women on our famous Double-Your-Money-Back Guarantee. Only 1.9% of these men and women were not helped by Ward's and asked for their double refund. This is truly an amazing performance.

Why not join the men and women who have successfully ended their troubles? Treat your scalp with Ward's Formula. Try it at our risk. In only 10 days you must see and feel the marked improvement in your scalp and hair. Your dandruff must be gone. Your scalp itch must stop. Your hair must look thicker, more attractive, and alive. Your excessive hair loss must stop. You must be completely satisfied—in only 10 days—with the improved condition of your scalp and hair, or simply return the unused portion for Double Your Money Back. So why delay? Delay may cost your hair.

H. H. Ward & Co., Inc., 19 West 44 Street, N. Y. 36, N. Y. © 1963

Doctors and hospitals can obtain professional samples of Ward's Formula on written request.

H. H. Ward & Co., Inc. Dept. 3908T
19 West 44 Street, New York 36, N. Y.

Rush Ward's Formula to me at once. I must be completely satisfied in only 10 days or you GUARANTEE refund of DOUBLE MY MONEY BACK upon return of bottle and unused portion.

Name

Address

City..... Zone..... State.....

☐ Enclosed find \$2, send postpaid (check, cash, money order)

☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postman \$2 plus 76 cents in postal charges (save the 76 cents by enclosing \$2)

☐ Send triple size for \$5. You save \$1.

Canadian, foreign, add 50 cents — No C.O.D.

DOUBLE MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

COUNT BORNAG ROYALE PERFORMS HIS ROLE WITHOUT A FLAW! HE PLAYS LIKE A MASTER WITH THE EMOTIONS, INTELLIGENCE, AND PATRIOTISM OF THE ASSEMBLAGE...

THE FINK! MY BOYS WERE JUST TRYIN' TO

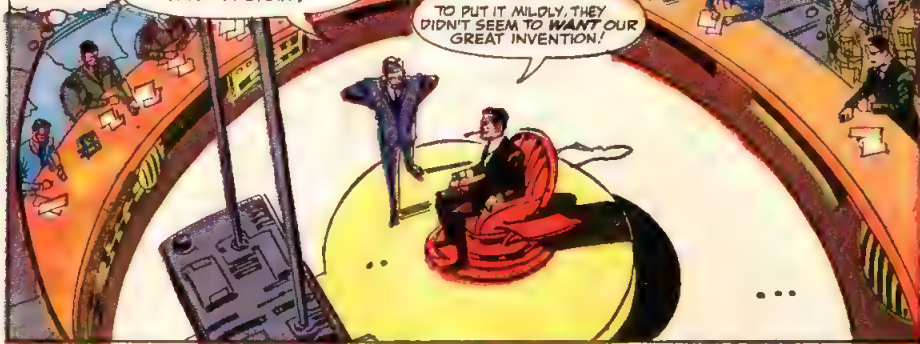
IT SOUNDS SHOCKING WHEN FURY IS SEEN FROM THAT VIEW, AND YET...

...AND THE NEXT GREAT PROJECT YOU SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL... THE SPACE-DRIVE PROPELLANT... TELL US WHAT HAPPENED THAT TIME, SIR!

THE COUNCIL WELL KNOWS... COLONEL FURY'S AGENTS WOULDN'T EVEN ALLOW US TO DISPLAY IT IN THE HELI-CARRIER!

CHECK THE STUFF... TO MAKE SURE HIS SET-UP DIDN'T BLOW US TO KINGDOM COME!

TO PUT IT MILDLY, THEY DIDN'T SEEM TO WANT OUR GREAT INVENTION!



IT'S GRACIOUS OF YOU, SIR, TO REMAIN SO FAIR IN YOUR TESTIMONY... BUT IN TRUTH, COLONEL FURY'S AGENTS GOT PRETTY ROUGH AT TIMES... DIDN'T THEY, SIR...

I BEAR NO PERSONAL GRUDGES, BUT I CAN SAY THAT COLONEL FURY'S OFFENSIVE POLICIES HAVE DEPRIVED THE FREE NATIONS OF GREAT NEW INVENTIONS JUST WHEN THEY WERE NEEDED MOST!



I WOULDN'T CALL COLONEL FURY A TRAITOR TO FREEDOM... BUT I FEEL THE WRONG MAN... IN THE WRONG PLACE... MAY WELL SERVE THAT END!

WHY, YOU POMPUS FOR! YOU'LL EAT THOSE WORDS! NOBODY SAYS THAT ABOUT ME!



WITNESS AFTER WITNESS WEAVES THE TIGHTENING NET ABOUT FURY...

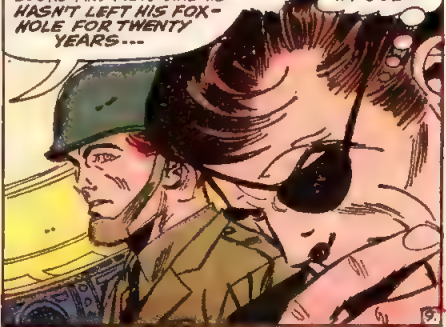
CAN YOU TELL US MORE ABOUT YOUR TREATMENT AT SHIELD HEADQUARTERS, GENERAL...

WELL, THE BOYS PUT ME THROUGH THE WRINGER, ALL RIGHT...



...THOUGH, I'VE GOT NO GRIPEs ABOUT THAT! IT'S JUST FURY'S BAD EXECUTIVE IMAGE! HE'S A TOP NOTCH FIGHTING MAN... WHO NEVER STOPS FIGHTING... HE LOOKS AND ACTS LIKE HE HASN'T LEFT HIS FOX-HOLE FOR TWENTY YEARS...

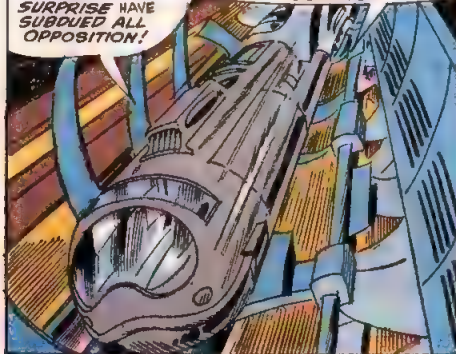
THE OLD BUZZARD'S RIGHT! THIS SURE WON'T HELP ME KEEP MY JOB...



AT THAT MOMENT, A "SHIELD" ROCKET CAR ROARS THROUGH A NETWORK OF TUNNELS TOWARD "SHIELD" HEADQUARTERS...

A.I.M.'S MISSION IS GOING WELL, MEN! EFFICIENCY AND SURPRISE HAVE SUBDUED ALL OPPOSITION!

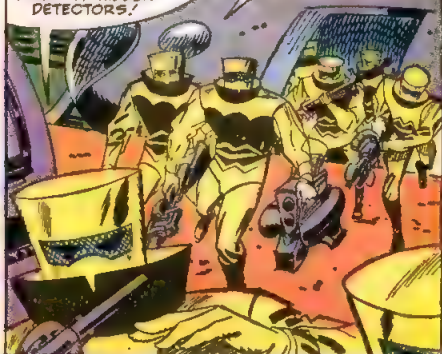
WE CAPTURED THIS ROCKET CAR...NOW WE'LL GET ONE OF THOSE LIFE MODEL DECOYS!



THE CAR SOON HISSES TO A HALT AT SHIELD HEAD-QUARTER'S TERMINAL!

THIS IS IT! ALARM EXPERTS, FORWARD! THIS AREA MUST BE A MASS OF HIDDEN DETECTORS!

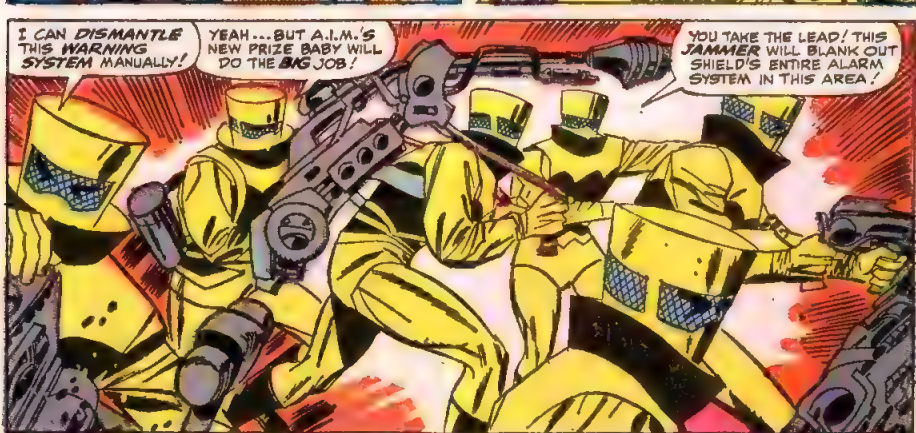
YOU HEARD HIM! START ASSEMBLING THE ELECTRONIC JAMMER!



I CAN DISMANTLE THIS WARNING SYSTEM MANUALLY!

YEAH...BUT A.I.M.'S NEW PRIZE BABY WILL DO THE BIG JOB!

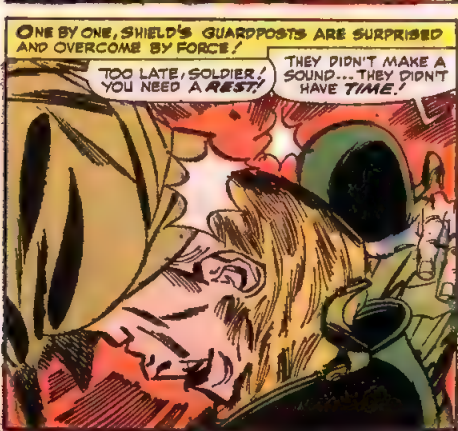
YOU TAKE THE LEAD! THIS JAMMER WILL BLANK OUT SHIELD'S ENTIRE ALARM SYSTEM IN THIS AREA!



ONE BY ONE, SHIELD'S GUARDPOSTS ARE SURPRISED AND OVERCOME BY FORCE!

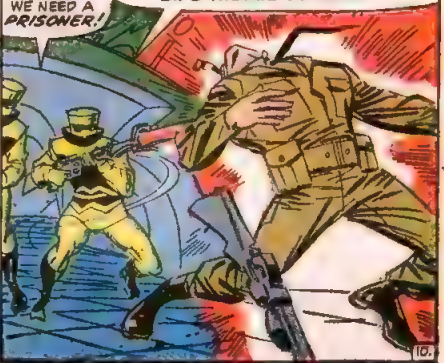
TOO LATE, SOLDIER! YOU NEED A REST!

THEY DIDN'T MAKE A SOUND...THEY DIDN'T HAVE TIME!



USE THE STUN-GUN ON HIM... WE NEED A PRISONER!

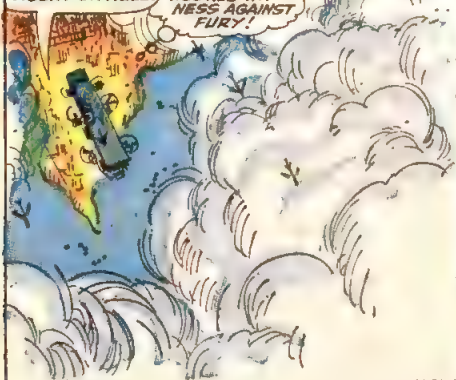
WHEN HE'S ABLE TO TALK...A HYPO-LITE WILL MAKE HIM LEAD US TO THE LIFE MODEL DECOYS...



AND AT NICK FURY'S TRIAL, A SURPRISE WITNESS IS CALLED...

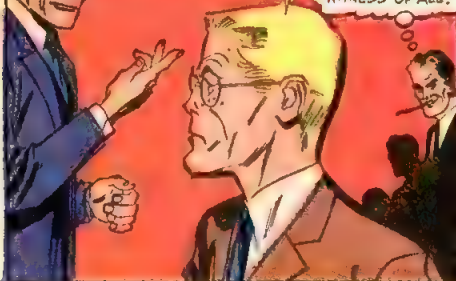
WILL YOU PLEASE TAKE THIS SEAT, AGENT SITWELL!

AHH... SITWELL SHOULD MAKE A FINE HOSTILE WITNESS AGAINST FURY!



JASPER SITWELL... AS AN AGENT OF SHIELD... HOW DO YOU RATE YOUR CHIEF... NICK FURY?

I CAN'T THINK OF ANY MAN I HATE MORE!
WELL! WELL! WITH SUCH A NOTABLE START! THE BOY MAY PROVE TO BE THE MOST DAMAGING WITNESS OF ALL!



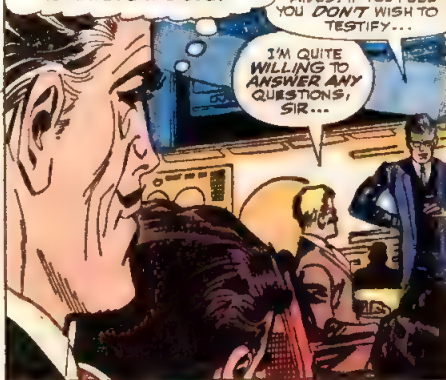
SITWELL'S TESTIMONY IS RIGHT ON THE BUTTON... IF I LISTEN TO ANY MORE OF IT, I'LL CRY!



HIS TESTIMONY WILL SEAL FURY'S FATE NICELY! A.I.M. HAS MONITORED ENOUGH ACTIVITY AT SHIELD HEAD-QUARTERS TO SUSPECT THAT SITWELL HIMSELF WOULD LIKE TO HAVE FURY'S JOB!

WE KNOW YOU ARE ONE OF COLONEL FURY'S MOST TRUSTED AIDES! IF YOU FEEL YOU DON'T WISH TO TESTIFY...

I'M QUITE WILLING TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS, SIR...



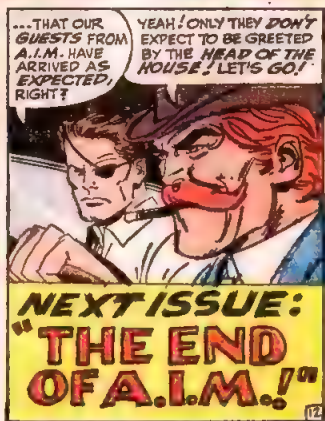
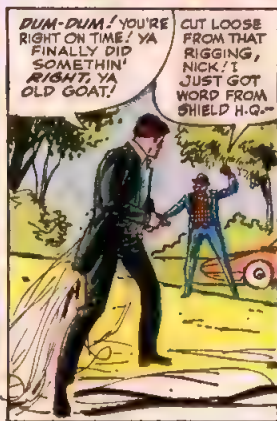
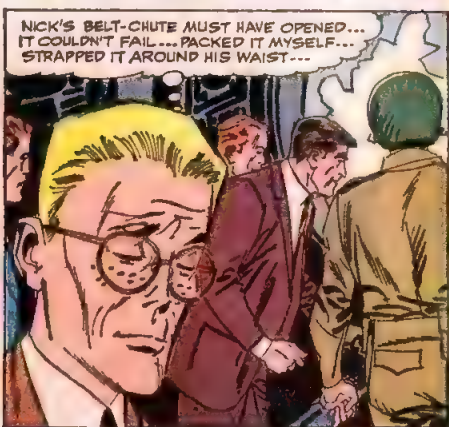
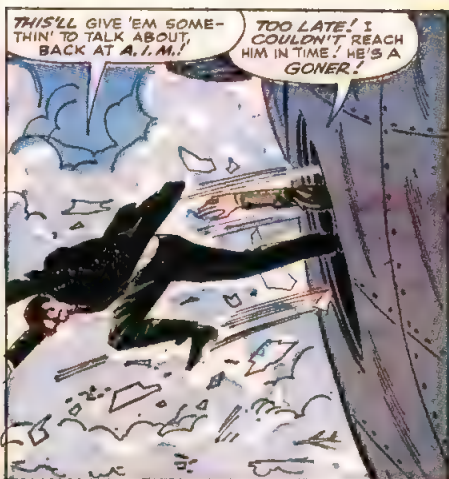
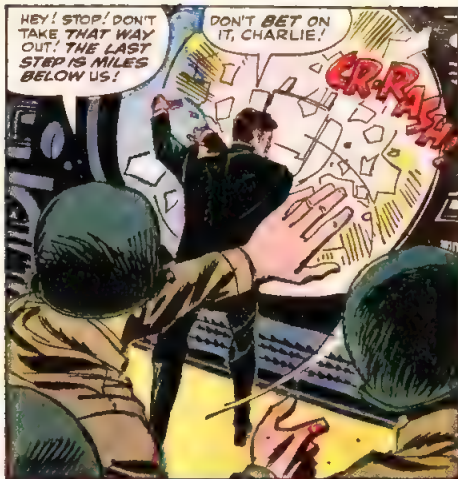
YES, I HATE NICK FURY FOR BEING THE KIND OF GREAT LEADER I MAY NEVER BECOME... FOR SETTING STANDARDS SO HIGH... THAT I MAY NEVER REACH THEM...

SITWELL... HE'S REVERSING HIS TESTIMONY! SO, HIS ARGUMENT WITH FURY WAS JUST AN ACT! THEY KNEW AIM WAS WATCHING THEM!



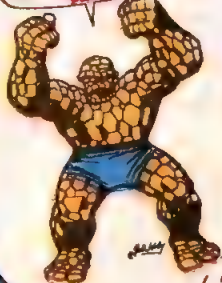
SORRY, BOYS... NOW WE PLAY THE GAME, NICK FURY'S WAY!!





IT'S CLOBBERIN' TIME!!

IT'S CLOBBERIN' TIME



THIS IS IT! THE SENSATIONAL SWEAT SHIRT YOU'VE SEEN FEATURED IN AMERICA'S LEADING FASHIONING MAGAZINES! (NAMES: MARVEL COMICS!)

AND AS IF THE FRONT ISN'T ENOUGH TO GRAB YOU LOOK AT THE DEEPLY-MOVING! TENDER, INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE ON THE BACK!

IT'S CLOBBERIN' TIME



\$3.15
PLUS 25¢ FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING

HERE COMES



THE INCREDIBLE HULK

NATURALLY, WE DON'T WANT YOU TO FORGET OUR HALCYON HULK MODEL, EITHER! WHO SAYS THIS ISN'T THE MARVEL AGE OF SWEAT SHIRTS!

\$3.15
PLUS 25¢ FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING

SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:
MARVEL COMICS GROUP, DEPT. H
625 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

PLEASE SEND _____ THING SWEAT SHIRT(S)
HULK SWEAT SHIRT(S)
AT \$3.15 EACH (ADD 25¢ PER SHIRT FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING.) PLEASE PRINT CAREFULLY.

CHECK THING ☐ MONSTROUS ☐ GARGANTUAN
SIZE! HULK ☐ MONSTROUS ☐ GARGANTUAN
YOUTH ADULT

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZIP _____ STATE _____

SUPER-HERO T-SHIRT.. \$1.60

EACH PLUS 25¢ FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING



IN FULL COLOR!

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MARVEL COMICS GROUP, DEPT. T
625 MADISON AVE. NEW YORK NY 10022
PLEASE SEND _____

DR. STRANGE T-SHIRTS AT \$1.60 EACH (ADD 25¢ PER SHIRT FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING.)
CHECK ☐ ADULT ☐ SMALL ☐ MEDIUM ☐ LARGE
SIZE ☐ YOUTH ☐ SMALL ☐ MEDIUM ☐ LARGE

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZIP _____ STATE _____

SPIDER-MAN PIN-UP... \$1.99

EACH PLUS 25¢ FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING



A GIANT 6-FOOT-HIGH PIN-UP IN LIVING COLOR OF YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN!

SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:
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625 MADISON AVE. NEW YORK NY 10022

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SUPER-HERO STATIONERY KIT.. \$1.00 EA. OR 2 FOR \$1.60

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Littleton, New Hampshire 03561

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Littleton, New Hampshire 03561

Please rush me valuable coin catalog plus packet of strange coins and money — including my Hong Kong banknote *plus*, for prompt action — and interesting offers on approval. Enclosed is 10¢ to help cover shipping.

Name.....
(Please print plainly)

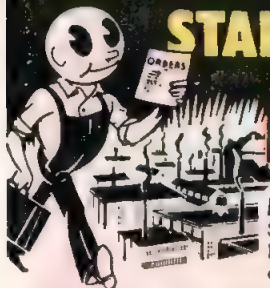
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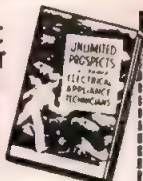
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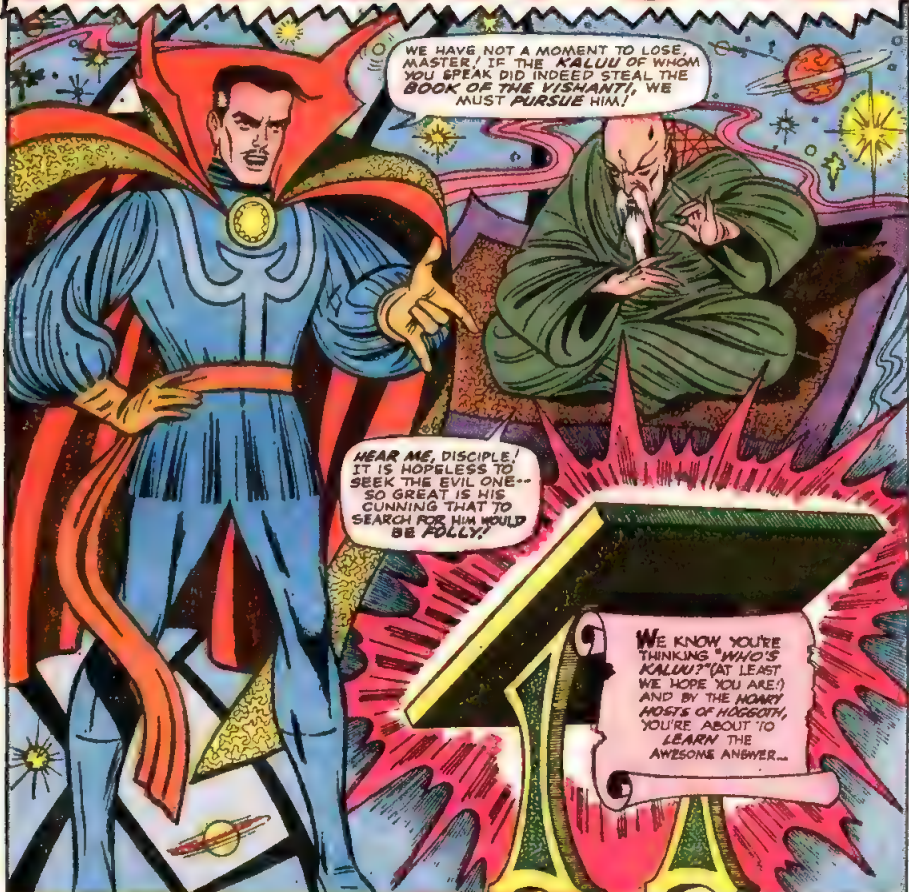
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Address.....

City.....State.....

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"The ORIGIN OF THE ANCIENT ONE!"



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BILL EVERETT

MAKESHIFT LETTERING BY
ARTIE SIMEK

THERE IS AN AURA IN THE
ATMOSPHERE AROUND THE
LECTERN THAT HELD THE
BOOK OF THE WISDOM! --
A FEELING OF GREAT
STRENGTH TWISTED INTO
AN INSTRUMENT OF EVIL!

I SHALL CAUSE AN
ECTOPLASMIC IMAGE OF
KALUU TO MATERIALIZE!
FOR I WOULD LOOK UPON
THE FACE OF ONE SO
BRAZEN...

"BUT...BY THE SEVEN
RINGS OF RAGGADOR,
SOME MYSTIC FORCE
IS BLURRING THE
IMAGE! ONLY ONE
POSSESSING GREAT
POWER COULD THUS
INTERFERE WITH MY
SPELL! ALREADY
KALUU'S FORM
FADES INTO
NOTHINGNESS..."

"AND, IN ITS PLACE, I BEHOLD EVIL SHAPES--MENACING SPIRITS!
IF THESE ARE KALUU'S SERVANTS, HE WILL BE PUNISHED FOR
WHATEVER DARK DEEDS HE HAS COMMITTED! I, DR STRANGE,
VOW IT!"

ENOUGH! YOUR BABBLING
IS THAT OF A CALLOW
SCHOOLBOY, DISCIPLE!
SUCH TALK IS NOT
WORTHY OF MY MOST
ACCOMPLISHED FOLLOWER!

YOU SPEAK LIGHTLY
OF DEFEATING ONE
WHOSE MAGICAL
PROWESS IS FAR
SUPERIOR TO YOUR
OWN--ONE WHOSE
WILL IS
INDOMITABLE!

FOR THOUGH THE BODY OF
KALUU BE ~~ME~~
THROUGH SHEER WILL-POWER
HE HAS MADE HIS SPIRIT
MORE THAN HUMAN!

FORGIVE ME, WISE ONE,
IF I HAVE OFFENDED YOU!
YET, I DO NOT UNDERSTAND
HOW CAN ANY MORTAL MAN
PRESENT SO GREAT A
THREAT?

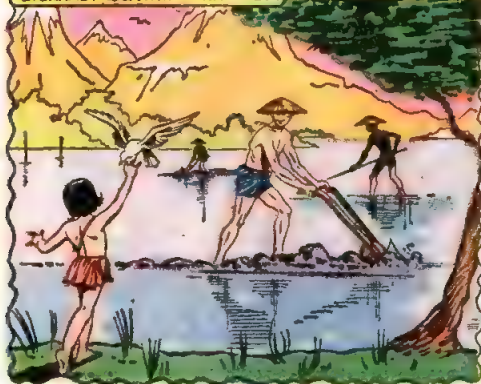
WHY DO YOU,
THE SUPREME
MASTER OF
ENCHANTMENT,
SEEM TO FEAR
HIM SO?

TO ANSWER YOUR
QUESTION, I MUST
SPEAK OF EVENTS
WHICH HAPPENED
MORE THAN
FIVE HUNDRED
YEARS AGO...

"...EVENTS WHICH
TOOK PLACE IN
KAMAR-TAK,
A HIDDEN LAND
HIGH IN THE
HIMALAYAS."

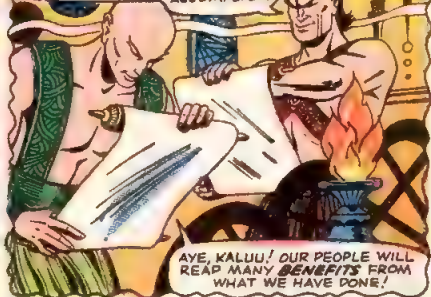
IT WAS POPULATED BY A RACE OF
PEOPLE WHO, THOUGH NOT OUT-
WARDLY ADVANCED, HAD DEVELOPED
THE ARTS OF JOYOUS LIVING TO A
DEGREE UNDREAMED OF BY MORE
COMPLEX CIVILIZATIONS! IT WAS
THE BIRTHPLACE OF BOTH KALUU
AND MYSELF...

"WE GREW TO MANHOOD THERE, AMONG GENTLE FOLK WHO KNEW NOT THE MEANING OF WAR, WHOSE LIVES WERE AS FREE AND BRIGHT AS THE LAUGHTER OF OUR CHILDREN... THEY TILLED THE EARTH, AND TOOK THEIR PLEASURE IN THE ETERNAL PAGEANTRY OF NATURE..."



"YET KALUU AND I DID NOT CHOOSE TO LIVE AS OUR BROTHERS; TOGETHER WE PLUMBED THE SECRETS OF THE SUPERNATURAL... AND TOGETHER WE DISCOVERED THE MEANS OF HARNESSING MYSTIC ENERGIES FOR OUR OWN USE..."

WE STAND ON THE THRESHOLD OF **ULTIMATE POWER!** WITH THE SPELLS WE HAVE RECORDED ON THESE PARCHMENTS, THERE WOULD BE **NOTHING** WE COULD NOT ACCOMPLISH!



AYE, KALUU! OUR PEOPLE WILL REAP MANY **BENEFITS** FROM WHAT WE HAVE DONE!

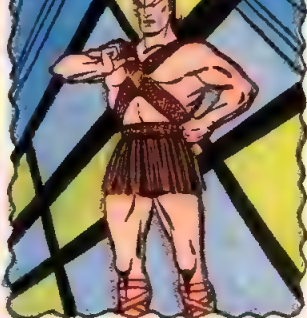
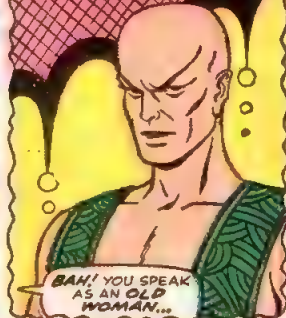
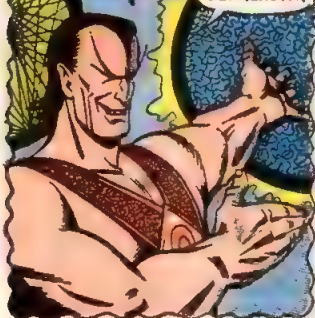
BENEFITS! VERILY, YOUR MIND IS STILL **SMALL!** OUR TINY LAND SHALL SOME DAY BE THE CENTER OF A VAST EMPIRE!

WE SHALL CONFER MORE THAN **BENEFITS!** WE SHALL GIVE OUR PEOPLE **SUPREMACY!**

YES! THINK OF IT--WE SHALL FREE MEN OF THE TYRANNY OF **SICKNESS** AND **STRIFE!** BUT, ALWAYS WE MUST REMEMBER THAT THERE ARE LAWS WE **DARE NOT VIOLATE!**

EVEN NOW YOU DO NOT REALIZE THE EXTENT OF OUR **ACHIEVEMENT!**

YOUR THOUGHTS ARE ONLY OF **CHARITY--** WHILE MINE ARE OF **DOMINATION!**

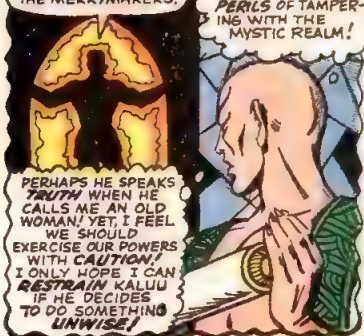


BAH! YOU SPEAK AS AN OLD WOMAN...

YOUR GLOOMY VISAGE **WEARIES** ME! OUTSIDE, IN THE SQUARE, I HEAR THE SOUNDS OF **REVELRY!** IT IS MY PLEASURE TO **JOIN** THE MERRYMAKERS!

ALWAYS, I HAVE DISTUSTED KALUU'S LUST FOR **POWER!** NOW I FEAR HIS AMBITION WILL BLIND HIM TO THE **PERILS** OF TAMPERING WITH THE **MYSTIC REALM!**

"BUT, WHILE I REMAINED ENGROSSSED IN MY ARCAINE STUDIES, KALUU USED HIS KNOWLEDGE OF **PSYCHIC HYPNOSIS** TO SLOWLY GAIN CONTROL OVER THE MINDS OF THE PEOPLE!"



PERHAPS HE SPEAKS **TRUTH** WHEN HE CALLS ME AN OLD WOMAN! YET, I FEEL WE SHOULD EXERCISE OUR POWERS WITH **CAUTION!** I ONLY HOPE I CAN **RESTRAIN** KALUU IF HE DECIDES TO DO SOMETHING **UNWISE!**



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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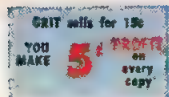
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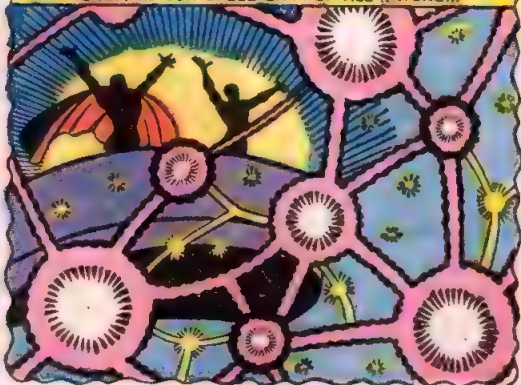
"MANY MONTHS WE KEPT TO OUR CHAMBER, REFINING MYSTERIOUS KNOWLEDGE WE HAD GAINED, UNTIL, ONE DAY, KALUU APPROACHED ME, HIS EYES GLITTERING..."

"COME! NO MORE CAN WE LEARN WITHIN THESE MUSTY WALLS! NOW, WE MUST ACT, IT IS TIME TO SUMMON OUR DESTINY!"

"I WOULD WAIT STILL LONGER, KALUU! BUT, IF YOU JUDGE THE DAYS OF STUDY ARE OVER, I WILL NEED YOU! LET US GO!"

"I MUST ACCOMPANY HIM! I DO NOT TRUST TO CONJURE ALONE! I SHALL USE MY POWER TO LIMIT HIS!"

"STEPPING ONTO A BALCONY WHICH OVERLOOKED THE SILENT VILLAGE, WE INVOKED ALL THE HIDDEN FORCES OF THE SUPER-NATURAL, CASTING AN ENCHANTMENT OVER THE LAND... FOR AN INSTANT, THE VERY GROUND BENEATH OUR FEET SHUDDERED, AS OUR SPELL GRIPPED ALL NATURE..."



"THEN, IT SEEMED THE SUN ITSELF SHONE MORE BRIGHTLY, AND THE AIR WAS SWEET IN OUR NOSTRILS! DISEASE, POVERTY AND PAIN VANISHED, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE LONG HISTORY OF MANKIND, HUMAN BEINGS WERE FREE TO EXIST IN PERFECT HAPPINESS, INTOXICATED WITH OUR SUCCESS, KALUU AND I WALKED THRU THE VILLAGE..."

"SOON, THE PEOPLE WILL CHOOSE A RULER! THOUGH YOU HAVE BEEN A FAITHFUL COMPANION, I INSIST THAT YOU REFUSE THE THRONE! FOR, ONLY I, KALUU, HAVE THE COURAGE AND STRENGTH TO LEAD..."

"KALUU MUST RULE!"

"HE DOES NOT REALIZE THAT I KNOW WHAT HE HAS DONE--THAT HE HAS IMPLANTED WITHIN THE PEOPLE THE DESIRE TO CROWN HIM KING!"

"I SHALL GIVE HIM SWAY--BUT I WILL STAY NEAR HIM THAT I MAY OPPOSE HIS PLANS FOR CONQUEST!"

"AND SO, AT THE COUNCIL OF THE ELDERS, KALUU WAS HONORED ABOVE ALL OTHER MEN..."

"LET KALUU ASCEND TO THE THRONE!"

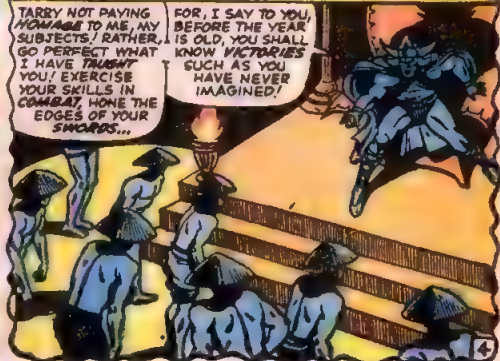
"IT IS DECREED BY FATE--KALUU SHALL LEAD US!"

**KALUU!
KALUU!
KALUU!**

"AND SO, KALUU WAS MADE KING! BUT WITHIN HOURS AFTER HIS CORONATION, HE BEGAN TO TRANSFORM THE FARMERS INTO WARRIORS--HERE ARMED PEASANTS IN THE SERVICE OF HIS UNQUENCHABLE AMBITION..."

"TARRY NOT PAYING HONOR TO ME, MY SUBJECTS! RATHER, GO PERFECT WHAT I HAVE TAUGHT YOU! EXERCISE YOUR SKILLS IN COMBAT, HONE THE EDGES OF YOUR SWORDS..."

"FOR, I SAY TO YOU, BEFORE THE YEAR IS OLD, YOU SHALL KNOW VICTORIES SUCH AS YOU HAVE NEVER IMAGINED!"



I WAS UNABLE TO CONVINCE THE PEOPLE OF THEIR DANGER! AGAIN AND AGAIN I GAVE WARNINGS, BUT TO NO AVAIL! KALUUS' HYPNOTIC PROWESS HAD MADE THE PEOPLE'S EARS DEAF TO ANY VOICE BUT HIS!

YOUR STORY FASCINATES ME, MASTER! YET, I DO NOT SEE WHY KALUUS IS TO BE FEARED! DO NOT WE, ALSO, POSSESS KNOWLEDGE OF THE OCCULT? WHY IS HIS MAGIC MORE POTENT THAN OURS?

IT IS BECAUSE, THESE MANY LONG CENTURIES, HE HAS EXISTED IN THE DIMENSION OF RAGGADOR-- WHERE THERE IS MAGIC FAR BEYOND THAT KNOWN TO OTHER MORTALS!

BUT HIS THEFT OF THE BOOK OF THE VISHANTI WAS FUTILE, FOR IT IS WRITTEN THAT THE BOOK MAY NEVER BE USED TO ATTACK, BUT ONLY IN DEFENSE!

KALUUS MUST HAVE ALREADY DISCOVERED HIS FOLLY!

AT THAT MOMENT, IN AN UNSUSPECTED CAVERN FAR BENEATH THE DEEPEST TUNNEL OF NEW YORK CITY, A TRIUMPHANT KALUUS IS EXAMINING HIS PRIZE...

VERILY, THE SACRED BOOK OF THE VISHANTI INTERESTS ME! NEVER HAVE I SUSPECTED THE INFINITE VARIETY OF THE SPELLS CONTAINED IN THESE PAGES!

AND NEVER HAVE I KNOWN THAT THE BOOK ITSELF IS FULL OF ENCHANTMENT! AT LAST I UNDERSTAND WHY DR. STRANGE VALUED IT SO HIGHLY!

I CAN ALMOST FEEL PITY FOR MY ANCIENT COMPANION AND HIS DISCIPLE! WITH THIS VOLUME, THEY MIGHT HAVE WITHSTOOD MY ASSAULT!

BUT, NOW THAT I HAVE DENIED THEM ITS USE, THEY SHALL FALL BEFORE MY MIGHT AS GRAIN BEFORE A HURRICANE!

IT GLADDENS ME THAT I CANNOT USE THESE SECRETS... MY VICTORY WOULD BE TOO EASY, MY VENGEANCE TOO EFFORTLESS WERE I ABLE TO CAST THE SPELLS OF THE VISHANTI!

FOR LO, THESE HUNDREDS OF YEARS, I HAVE FED MY HATE, PLANNED MY RETURN! THE DESTRUCTION OF MY COMPANION WILL BE ALL THE MORE SWEET BECAUSE I SHALL ACCOMPLISH IT ALONE, WITH NO AID FROM ANYONE--OR ANYTHING!

NOW, I SHALL CAST THE BOOK BACK INTO TIME, THRU THE DEAD AGES TO THE HOUR AND PLACE FROM WHENCE IT CAME! NEITHER DR. STRANGE NOR HIS MENTOR WILL BE ABLE TO RETRIEVE IT!

MY HOUR HAS COME! I SHALL RETURN TO THE PLACE MEN CALL GREENWICH VILLAGE, THERE TO FULFILL MY REVENGE!

BEGONE, BOOK! KALUUS COMMANDS IT!

AND, AS THE MENACING STRANGER PREPARES HIS ATTACK, THE ANCIENT ONE CONTINUES HIS BIZARRE STORY...

OUR VILLAGE **PROSPERED** AS NO OTHERS EVER HAD! OUR PEOPLE WERE NEVER SICK--OUR FIELDS YIELDED PLENTIFULLY, OUR CATTLE MULTIPLIED BEYOND ALL EXPECTATION!

FOR MORE THAN A YEAR AFTER KALUU AND I CAST OUR SPELL...

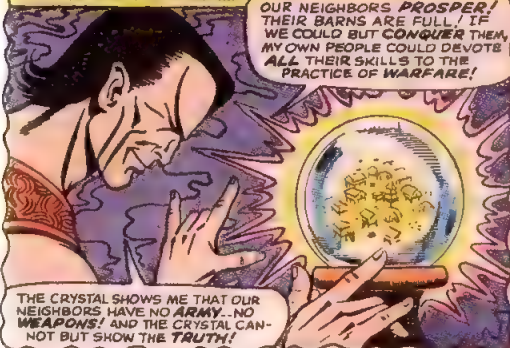
"WE HEARD NOT THE SOUND OF CRYING, NOR SAW ON THE VILLAGERS' FACES ANY EXPRESSION SAVE A GENTLE SMILE! THUS, EVEN FROM SUCH A REIGN OF **EVIL**, THERE CAME **GOOD!** BUT, AT WHAT **PRICE**--THAT THE PEOPLE BECAME NO MORE THAN THE **PUPPETS** OF KALUU..."



"HIS WORD WAS NEVER QUESTIONED, AND HIS EVERY PRONOUNCEMENT WAS ACCEPTED AS **TRUTH!** ONLY I HAD BEGUN TO WORRY, FOR EVERY NIGHT I SAW KALUU'S COUNTER IN HIS CRYSTAL THE IMAGE OF THE SETTLEMENT AT THE FOOT OF THE MOUNTAIN..."

OUR NEIGHBORS **PROSPER!** THEIR BARN ARE FULL! IF WE COULD BUT **CONQUER** THEM, MY OWN PEOPLE COULD DEVOTE ALL THEIR SKILLS TO THE PRACTICE OF **WARFARE!**

MY EASE BECOMES **BORING!** I CRAVE **EXCITEMENT!** ON THE MORROW, I SHALL TELL MY SUBJECTS OF MY **PLAN!**



THE CRYSTAL SHOWS ME THAT OUR NEIGHBORS HAVE NO **ARMY...NO WEAPONS!** AND THE CRYSTAL CANNOT BUT SHOW THE **TRUTH!**

ERE WE SEE ANOTHER WINTER, KALUU WILL BE A NAME TO MAKE ALL WHO WALK THE EARTH **TREMBLE!**

"AND SO, ON THE FOLLOWING MORNING IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE, KALUU ADDRESSED THE VILLAGE..."

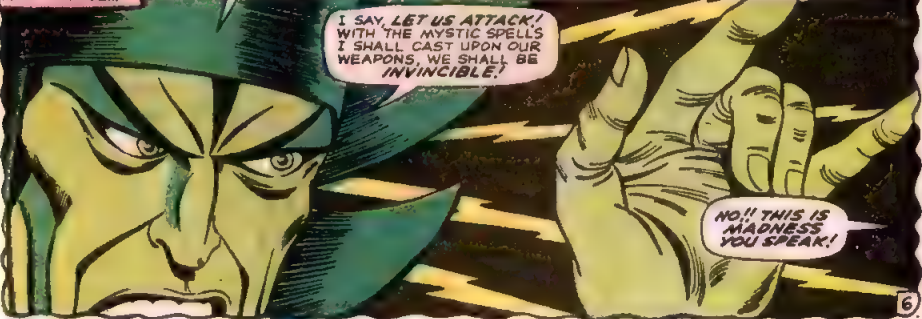
KNOW YOU, MEN OF KAMAR-TAT, THAT WE ARE THE MOST **POWERFUL PEOPLE IN THE WORLD!** IT IS OUR **DESTINY** TO HOLD SWAY OVER ALL OTHERS!

A LEAGUE AWAY, THERE LIVES A RACE OF **WEAKLINGS!** FOOLS AND COWARDS ARE THEY--BUT THEY HAVE WHEAT AND RICE ENOUGH TO **FILL OUR PANTRIES!**

WHY SHOULD YOU, MEN OF KAMAR-TAT, TOIL BENEATH THE SUMMER SUN, WHEN WE HAVE STRENGTH ENOUGH AND MORE TO **TAKE** WHAT WE NEED?

I SAY, **LET US ATTACK!** WITH THE MYSTIC SPELLS I SHALL CAST UPON OUR WEAPONS, WE SHALL BE **INVINCIBLE!**

NO!! THIS IS **MADNESS** YOU SPEAK!



THE ENCHANTMENT WE CAST—
THE ENCHANTMENT WHICH
HAS ERASED POVERTY AND
RAIN FROM OUR LIVES—
WILL *WASH* IF WE MAKE
WAR! WE SHALL BE PLUNGED
INTO THE MOST **TERRIBLE**
AGONIES IF WE ACT UPON
YOUR **INSANE SCHEME**!

YOU ALWAYS WERE A **COWARD**,
MY **SNIVELLING FRIEND**! **BACK**
TO YOUR **STUDY**—**DUSTY BOOKS**
ARE THE **ONLY FIT COMPANIONS**
FOR ONE SUCH AS **YOURSELF**!

I GROW **WEARY** OF
YOUR **PERPETUAL WHINING**! **AWAY**
FROM MY **SIGHT**!
LEAVE THE
AFFAIRS OF **STATE**
TO **KALUU**!

WHILE **BREATH**
REMAINS IN MY
BODY, I WILL
OPPOSE YOU,
KALUU!

KALUU, I **PLEAD**
WITH YOU!
ALTER YOUR
PLANS **BEFORE**
IT IS **TOO LATE**!

SO BE IT!
THEN I SHALL
DEPRIVE
YOUR **BODY**
OF **BREATH**!

GUARDS!
SEIZE HIM!

AYE, MASTER!

"THOUGH I **DESPISED** VIOLENCE WITH ALL
MY **HEART**, I **TURNE**D AND **CAST** A **SPELL**
UPON **KALUU'S** **SOLDIERS**, **FREEZING** THEM
WHERE THEY **STOOD**..."

YOU WILL BE **IMMOBILIZED** FOR A **DAY**!
AND, WHEN THE **SPELL** IS **GONE**, YOU WILL
SEE THE **EVIL** YOUR **MASTER** **PROPOSES**, BY
THE **SPIRITS** OF
SKY AND **EARTH**
DO I **COMMAND**
IT!

NOW, I MUST
TREAT KALUU
IN **SIMILAR**
MANNER!

FOOL! YOUR
MAGIC IS AS
WEAK AS YOUR
WILL!

I SHALL **NOT KILL** YOU! FOR, I
SHALL **ENJOY** HAVING YOU AS MY
PERSONAL SLAVE WHEN OUR
CONQUEST IS **FINISHED**!

UNTIL THEN, YOU SHALL
REMAIN **FIXED** WHERE
YOU **STAND** **HELPLESS**
AS A **STATUE**! YOU
SHALL **WATCH** WITH
MOTIONLESS EYES AS
I **PREPARE** MY **ARMY**!

WHILE MY **BACK**
WAS **TURNE**D, **KALUU**
STRUCK! IT WAS
FOLLY TO **THINK**
HE WOULD **FIGHT**
WITH **HONOR**!

HEAR ME, **WARRIORS** OF **KAMAR-
TAT**! WHEN THE **SUN** **RISES** **NEXT**,
WE SHALL **BEGIN** OUR **MARCH**!
TODAY, WE **PREPARE**; **TOMORROW**,
WE **STRIKE**!

"SO, **THROUGHOUT** THE **NIGHT**, THE **VILLAGERS** **PREPARED** FOR **WAR**!
EYES **BLANK**, THEY **PASSED** **BEFORE** **KALUU**, **HOLDING**
THEIR **SWORDS** **BEFORE** HIM, AND ON EACH **SWORD**
HE **CAST** A **SPELL** OF **INVINCIBILITY**! WHEN **DAWN**
CAME, THE **PEACEFUL FARMERS** **HAD** **BECOME**
MINDLESS SAVAGES!"

KALUU!
KALUU!

KALUU!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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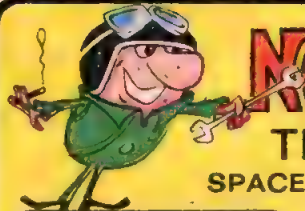
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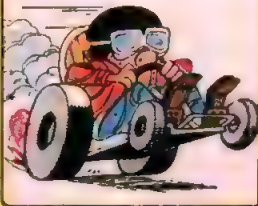
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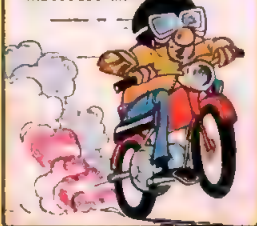
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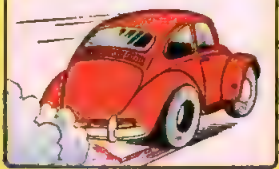
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THEN, KALUU ORDERED MY STILL-HELPLESS BODY PUT INTO A CART! AGAINST MY WILL, I WAS TAKEN WITH THE ARMY TO THE NEIGHBORING VILLAGE, THERE TO WITNESS HIS *INFAMY!* LED BY THE POWER-MAD SORCERER, THE WARRIORS ATTACKED WITHOUT MERCY!"



"WITH ENCHANTED WEAPONS, COVERED BY A MYSTIC SHIELD, THEY LAID WASTE TO ALL THEY SAW..."

"THOUGH THE VICTIMS RESISTED BRAVELY WITH STONES AND STICKS, THEIR EFFORTS WERE AS *NOTHING!* TO YET FURTHER SLAKE HIS THIRST FOR DESTRUCTION, KALUU ORDERED THE VILLAGE BURNED. THE AIR WAS FILLED WITH SMOKE, AND ABOVE THE NOISE OF BATTLE I COULD HEAR THE SHRIIL VOICE OF KALUU."

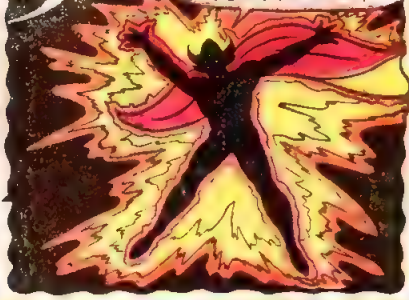


ONWARD, MEN OF KAMAR-TAJ!
LEAVE NOT ONE HUT UNTOUCHED!

"AT LAST, THEIR RESOURCES EXHAUSTED, THEIR SPIRITS BROKEN, THE COURAGEOUS PEASANTS HAD NO RECOURSE BUT TO BEG FOR SURRENDER..."

HAVE MERCY! WE WILL FIGHT NO MORE!

MERCY? YOU ASK MERCY OF KALUU, THE CONQUEROR? WEAKLINGS DO NOT DESERVE MERCY!



"AFTER THE LAST SOUND OF BATTLE HAD DIED, KALUU'S WARRIORS FORCED THE MEN OF THE RUINED VILLAGE TO LOAD OUR CARTS WITH THEIR OWN GOODS, THE GOODS THEY HAD WRUNG FROM NATURE WITH ENDLESS TOIL..."



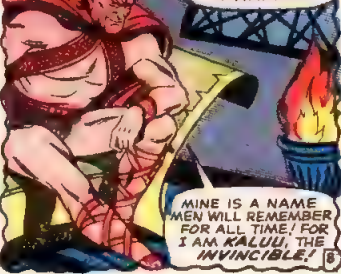
LO, OUR CAPTIVES HAVE WORKED THROUGH THE HEAT OF THE AFTERNOON, MASTER! IS IT NOT TIME TO PERMIT THEM REST?

NO! THEIR LABOR WILL NOT CEASE UNTIL THE TASK IS FINISHED!

DO NOT THINK OF THEM AS MEN! THEY ARE BUT OUR SLAVES!

"WHEN THE LONG SHADOWS OF EVENING CROSSED THE RAVAGED LAND, KALUU SAT UPON HIS THRONE AND GLOATED..."

ONE VILLAGE HAS FALLEN BEFORE US! BUT THERE ARE *OTHERS*--WEALTHIER, MORE RIPE FOR CONQUEST! AND BEYOND THE MOUNTAINS, I HAVE HEARD OF GREAT CITIES! THESE, TOO, SHALL FEEL THE POWER OF KALUU!



MINE IS A NAME MEN WILL REMEMBER FOR ALL TIME! FOR I AM KALUU, THE INVINCIBLE!

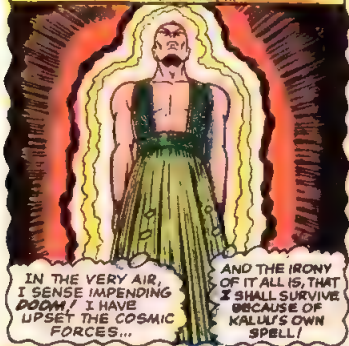
"KALUU'S WARRIORS, NOW AS **POWER** **CHAINED** AS THEIR LEADER, FORCED THE CAPTIVES TO RETURN WITH US TO KAMAR-TAT, WHERE THEY WERE ALREADY TO DO LABORS FIT ONLY FOR BEASTS. AS THE DAYS PASSED, THE LIGHT OF HUMANITY DIED IN THEIR EYES..."



"...BUT THE EFFECT OF KALUU'S REGIME UPON OUR OWN PEOPLE WAS **WORSE** YET, FOR DEPRIVED OF THE DIGNITY OF HONEST LABOR THEY SANK INTO A STATE **WORSE** THAN THAT OF BEASTS -- THEIR LAUGHTER BECAME AS THE GRUNTING OF SWINE, AND THEIR THOUGHTS WERE ONLY OF THEIR COMFORTS!"

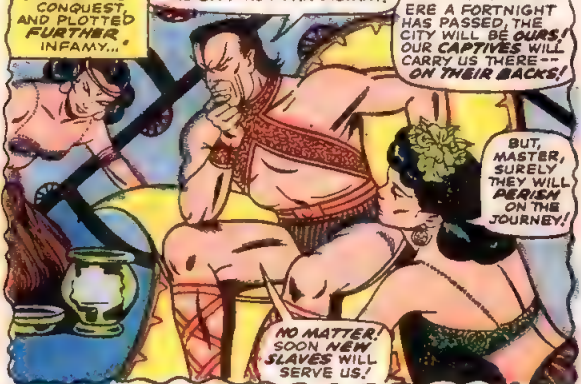


"KALUU KEPT ME FROZEN IN HIS SPELL, DISPLAYED IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE FOR ALL TO TAUNT! BUT THOUGH MY **BODY** WAS HELPLESS, STILL I COULD CALL UPON THE MYSTIC FORCES WHICH MY CAPTOR HAD FLAUNTED..."



"ALL THE WHILE, KALUU SAVORED HIS CONQUEST, AND PLOTTED **FURTHER** INFAMY..."

"**GOLD! FINE SILKS!** THESE THINGS DOES KALUU CRAVE. IN A CRYSTAL, I SAW THE IMAGE OF A FINE CITY NOT FAR DISTANT."

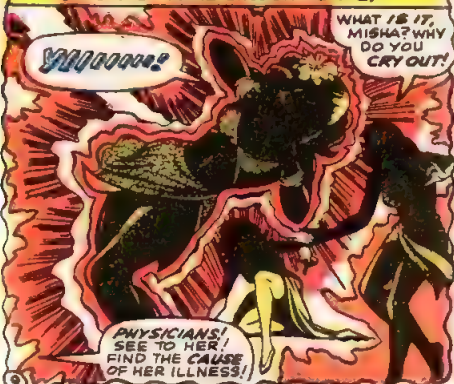


"ERE A FORTNIGHT HAS PASSED, THE CITY WILL BE **OURS!** OUR CAPTIVES WILL CARRY US THERE -- **ON THEIR BACKS!**"

"BUT, MASTER, SURELY THEY WILL **ABANDON** ON THE JOURNEY!"

"**NO MATTER!** SOON NEW SLAVES WILL SERVE US!"

"SUDDENLY, A SERVING GIRL WAS STRUCK TO THE GROUND BY SOME UNSEEN **FORCE!**"

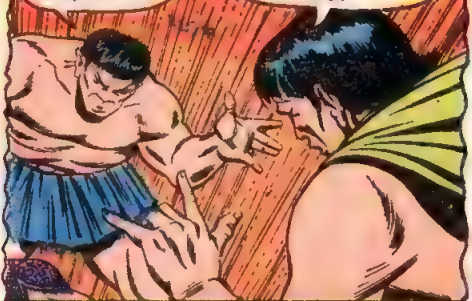


"WHAT IS IT, MISHA? WHY DO YOU CRY OUT?"

"PHYSICIANS! SEE TO HER, FIND THE **CAUSE** OF HER ILLNESS!"

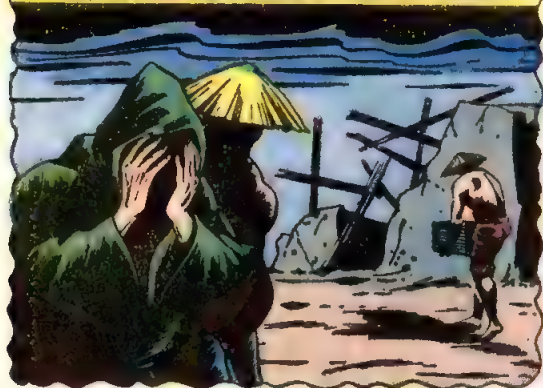
"SHE IS BEYOND THE MINISTRATIONS OF ANY MAN, MASTER!"

"I HAVE NEVER BEHELD THESE THINGS BEFORE. IT IS AS THOUGH HER **BODY** NEVER HELD LIFE!"



"WHEN I CALLED DOWN THE MYSTIC POWERS UPON KALUU, I DID NOT REALIZE THAT THE **VILLAGERS** WOULD BE AFFECTED..."

"PESTILENCE AND DISEASE SWEEPED OVER THE LAND, AND THOSE FEW WHO ESCAPED SICKNESS SPENT THE LONG SUMMER NIGHTS MAKING CRIES OF MOURNING...A WEEK PASSED, THEN ANOTHER! FINALLY, THE CURTAIN OF DEATH LIFTED, LEAVING THE VILLAGE RAVAGED AND HOLLOW!"



"SUCH WAS HIS MYSTIC POWER THAT KALUU, THE CUNNING, THE EVIL KALUU, DID NOT PERISH WITH HIS WARRIORS."

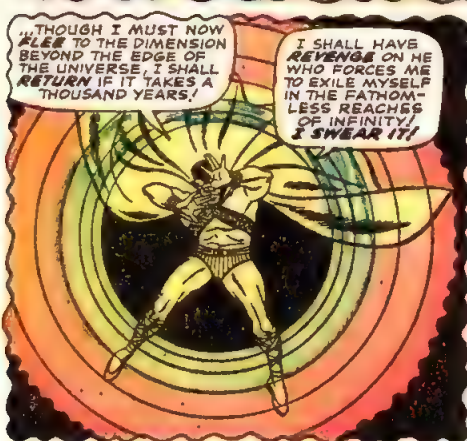
MY PLANS FOR DOMINATION HAVE ~~CRUMBLER~~ WITHOUT AN ARMY NOT EVEN KALUU CAN PLUNDER THE GREAT CITIES!

THIS PLAGUE --IT MUST BE THE WORK OF MY FORMER COMPANION! I KNOW NOT HOW HE PENETRATED THE SPELL I CAST UPON HIM, BUT THIS I DO KNOW.



"...THOUGH I MUST NOW FLEE TO THE DIMENSION BEYOND THE EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE, I SHALL RETURN IF IT TAKES A THOUSAND YEARS!"

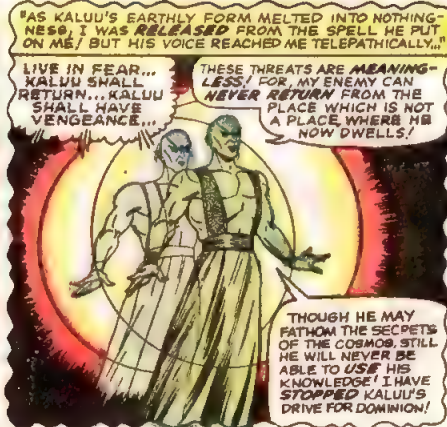
I SHALL HAVE REVENGE ON HE WHO FORCES ME TO EXILE MYSELF IN THE FATHOMLESS REACHES OF INFINITY! I SWEAR IT!



"AS KALUU'S EARTHLY FORM MELTED INTO NOTHINGNESS, I WAS RELEASED FROM THE SPELL HE PUT ON ME! BUT HIS VOICE REACHED ME TELEPATHICALLY..."

LIVE IN FEAR... KALUU SHALL RETURN... KALUU SHALL HAVE VENGEANCE...

THESE THREATS ARE MEANINGLESS! FOR, MY ENEMY CAN NEVER RETURN FROM THE PLACE WHICH IS NOT A PLACE WHERE HE NOW DWELLS!



THOUGH HE MAY FATHOM THE SECRETS OF THE COSMOS, STILL HE WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO USE HIS KNOWLEDGE! I HAVE STOPPED KALUU'S DRIVE FOR DOMINION!

"VOWING TO COMBAT EVIL MAGIC WHEREVER IT MIGHT BE, I LEFT KAMAR-TAJ! BECAUSE I HAD BEEN UNDER KALUU'S SPELL, THE COSMIC FORCES WHICH BEREFT THE OTHERS OF ETERNAL LIFE ONLY PARTIALLY AFFECTED ME--I, I THOUGHT MYSELF SAFE."

THERE IS NO MORE I CAN DO FOR THE SUFFERING PEOPLE OF KAMAR-TAJ! BUT ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD OTHERS MAY NEED MY AID!



"BUT, WHEN DORMAMMU CLASHED WITH ETERNITY, THE BARRIERS WHICH HAD HELD KALUU BEYOND MORTAL KEN WERE SHATTERED! HE WAS RETURNED TO FULFILL HIS ANCIENT VOW!"

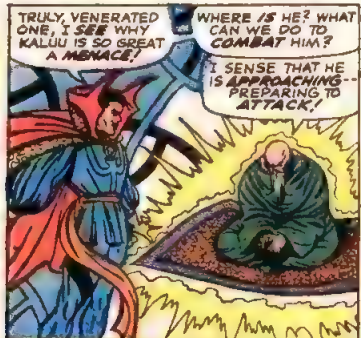


"UNFORGETTABLY PORTRAYED IN STRANGE TALES #146!"

TRULY, VENERATED ONE, I SEE WHY KALUU IS SO GREAT A MENACE!

WHERE IS HE? WHAT CAN WE DO TO COMBAT HIM?

I SENSE THAT HE IS APPROACHING--PREPARING TO ATTACK!



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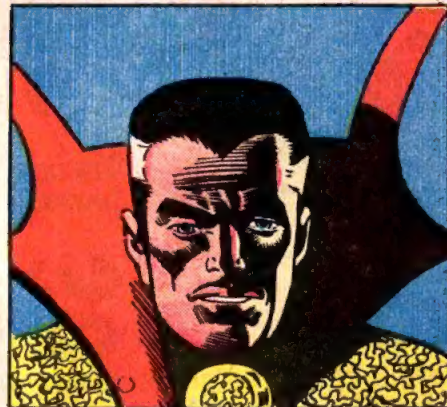
STRANGEMAILS

Dear Stan,

You know we Marvel fans aren't ones to complain, but I think the Shield situation is getting out of hand! In the space of six months I have seen Joe Sinnott (good), Don Heck (admirable), Jack Kirby (magnificent) and a few others (bad) draw this strip. I didn't care for those others' rendition of Fury's Porsche, Jasper Sitwell, or the various new characters. Let any newcomers assist Kirby for a while and get more experience before you turn them loose on Shield. Issue #144 was better in overall content than previous issues. Criticism is the sign of a real fan, so when a solution is offered, don't blow your cool.

John Stewart, 216 Welford Rd.
Lutherville, Md.

We won't, Johnny. You really grabbed us with your opinions, criticisms, and the swingin' social sermon with which you concluded your liltin' lecture! (Or, how cool can a bullpen be!)



Dear Stan,

"The Day of the Druid" was one of the best you've written. Bringing in some witchcraft was a good idea, and you also put in some history, too. But Dum Dum is Irish and the Druids were in Europe and Ireland. If you are talking about one Druid, that's fine, but for more than one, the word is Druid. Is Jasper Sitwell real? You've got to stop writing such complicated stories, Stan — it took me three hours to read this issue to understand it!

William Marshall, Rt. #1, Box 22
Warner, Okla. 74469

At last — conclusive proof that our frantic fans are smarter than we are! We've been reading it for days — and still can't figure it out!

Dear Stan,

I have been reading the Marvel mags ever since the F.F.'s first issue. I've watched the conception of Spider-Man, Iron Man, Thor, Hulk, and Shield, plus the rest of the Marvel family of genius-conceived heroes and villains. I'm 30 years old and have gone to college. I've read most of the great classics — Shakespeare and I am on familiar terms. I started reading when I was 4 years old and have heard the complaint of having my nose in a book ever since. I know what I'm talking about when I say that your comics are good. The main reason I am writing is to reply to a letter in an earlier STRANGE TALES that didn't like Nick Fury and boosted such comparative softies as James Bond, Napoleon Solo, and Nick Carter. Nick Fury has what it takes to do the job of heading Shield. Does anyone think that the trio of Bond, Solo, and Carter could be tough enough to head up an organization of the caliber of this one? They would be too busy chasing the dolls to get any work done.

Arthur Hayner, Rt. #1
Big Rapids, Mich.

Hmm — but who has the most fun, Art? Anyway, thanks for your cogent comments, literature lover!

Dear Stan,

I enjoy Nick Fury but sometimes he offends me. I doubt if we need, in this day and age, this kind of super army sergeant — tough, smart-alecky and anti-intellectual. I mean, are these the characteristics we want to glorify and encourage? Also, Shield's gradual transition from espionage to science-fiction has reduced its effectiveness. On the other hand, Dr. Strange is a hero every bit as strong and courageous as Fury, without being tough, every bit as witty without being a wise-guy. And, on top of it all, extremely intelligent, clever and dignified. The dangers he has faced make all of Fury's enemies look like a gang of teenage car-strippers. Give STRANGE TALES to Dr. Strange! Put Fury elsewhere (back with the Howlers, maybe) or drop him. James Hockenull, 1000 Quince Ave.
Boulder, Colo. 80302

Jimmy, we get the feeling you're trying to tell us something! But, until our other rabid readers are heard from (Sam Rabid and his cousin Dave), we'll have to leave your letter in the basket labelled "This we needed on a gloomy Monday!"

NEXT-ISH: Surprise time's coming up again, pussycat! We're about to reveal where ol' Gabriel Jones has been hiding these past few months — and we have a hunch that the answer will kinda shake you up a mite! (Although we've already received a few letters from our hipper howlers in which they've actually guessed what Fury's trumpet-tooth teammate has been up to!) Also, you'll thrill anew to Wild Bill Everett's rhapsodic renditions of Doc Strange's eerie encounter with the uncanny Kaluul! All in all, we figure STRANGE TALES #149 is gonna be the wackiest, but it won't mean a thing if you cap out! So be here, for our sake! You know how we hate explaining your absence to the Vishanti!

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